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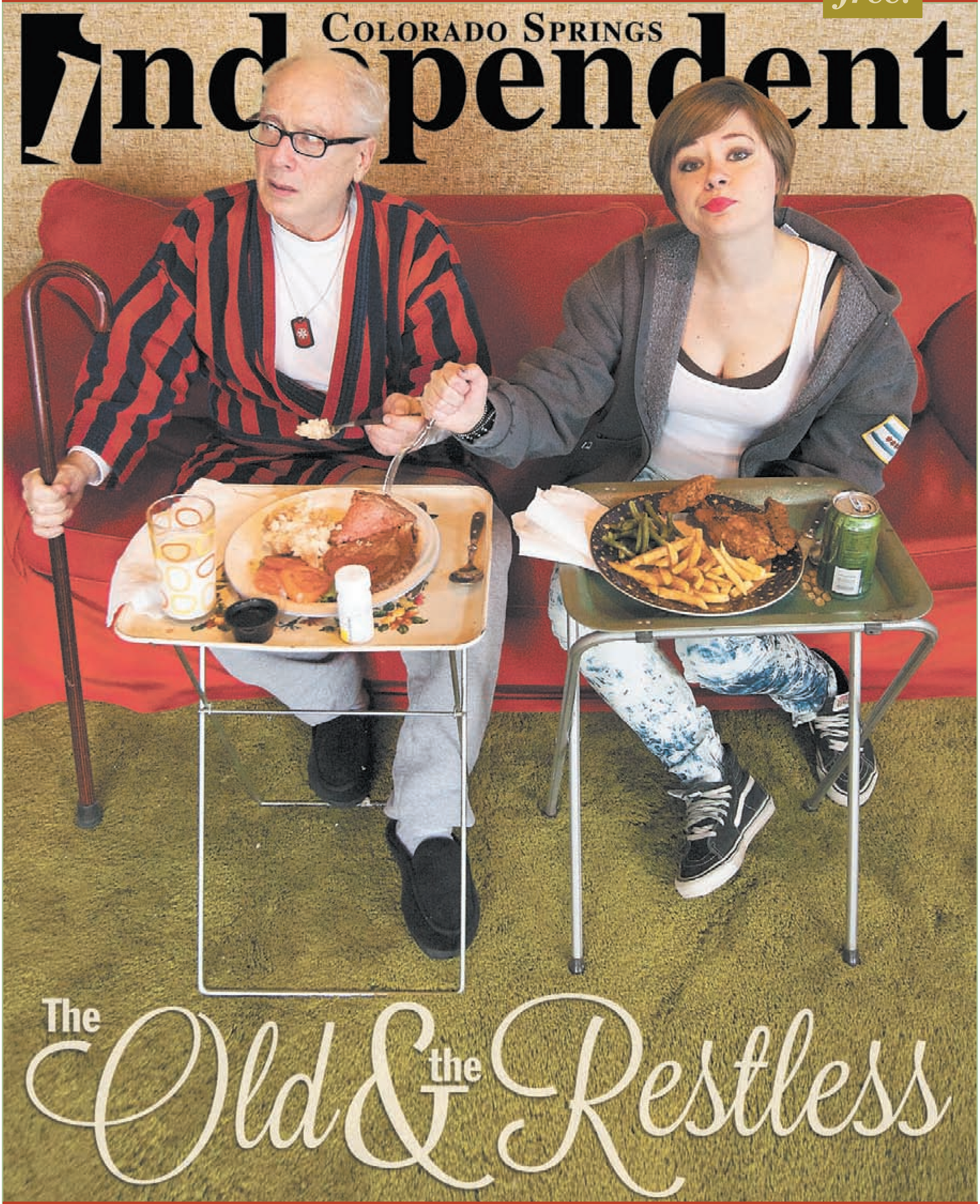

Brienne Boortz

The Old & the Restless

A youth infusion into senior housing threatens locals' serenity – and safety 15

By J. Adrian Stanley

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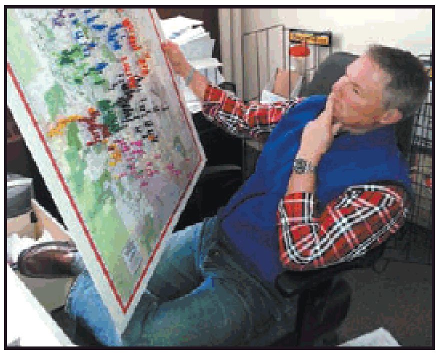

World domination takes time. And maps.

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Can't stop the bleating

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The blood and guts are disturbing on their own, but what really churns the stomach are the sounds.

The sickening crunch of bones breaking under the pressure of hedge trimmers, the moans, and the joking and whistling of U.S. Coast Guard personnel as they spill the innards of still-breathing animals.

Seven Days to Live:

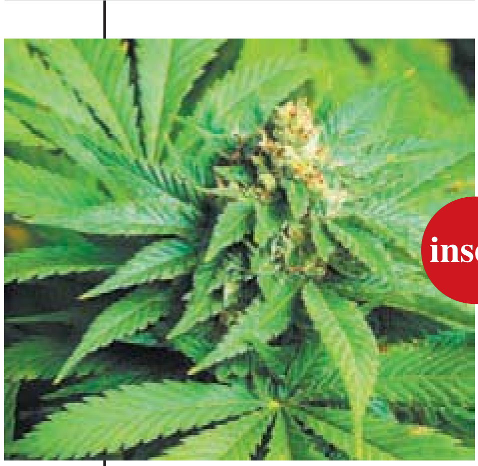
The gaping lotus experience

20

Who wants a colossal best friend who also happens to be a robot?

Artist and associate professor of digital arts and new media at the University of Oregon Michael Salter does. "I like the irony of a Frankenstein creature that is misunderstood and protective," he says.

ReLeaf



insert

We call ReLeaf a local guide to all things medical-marijuana in the Pikes Peak region. But that definition is shifting, because everything to do with it is, too. In this week's insert, you'll find center listings, but you'll also find a story looking at the legal differences between the new laws passed in Washington and Colorado — laws which, of course, have nothing to do with MMJ.

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On the Cover

Photo by Brienne Boortz.

UpComing

For the eaters out there, it's almost time to chomp down on the *Indy*'s annual ***Bites*** supplement.

The completely revamped, calorie-free guide will be stuffed inside the Feb. 6 issue, like pinto beans in a spicy burrito, or a medium-well beef patty between two soft buns, or melted mozzarella cheese in a hot calzone ...

Hungry yet?

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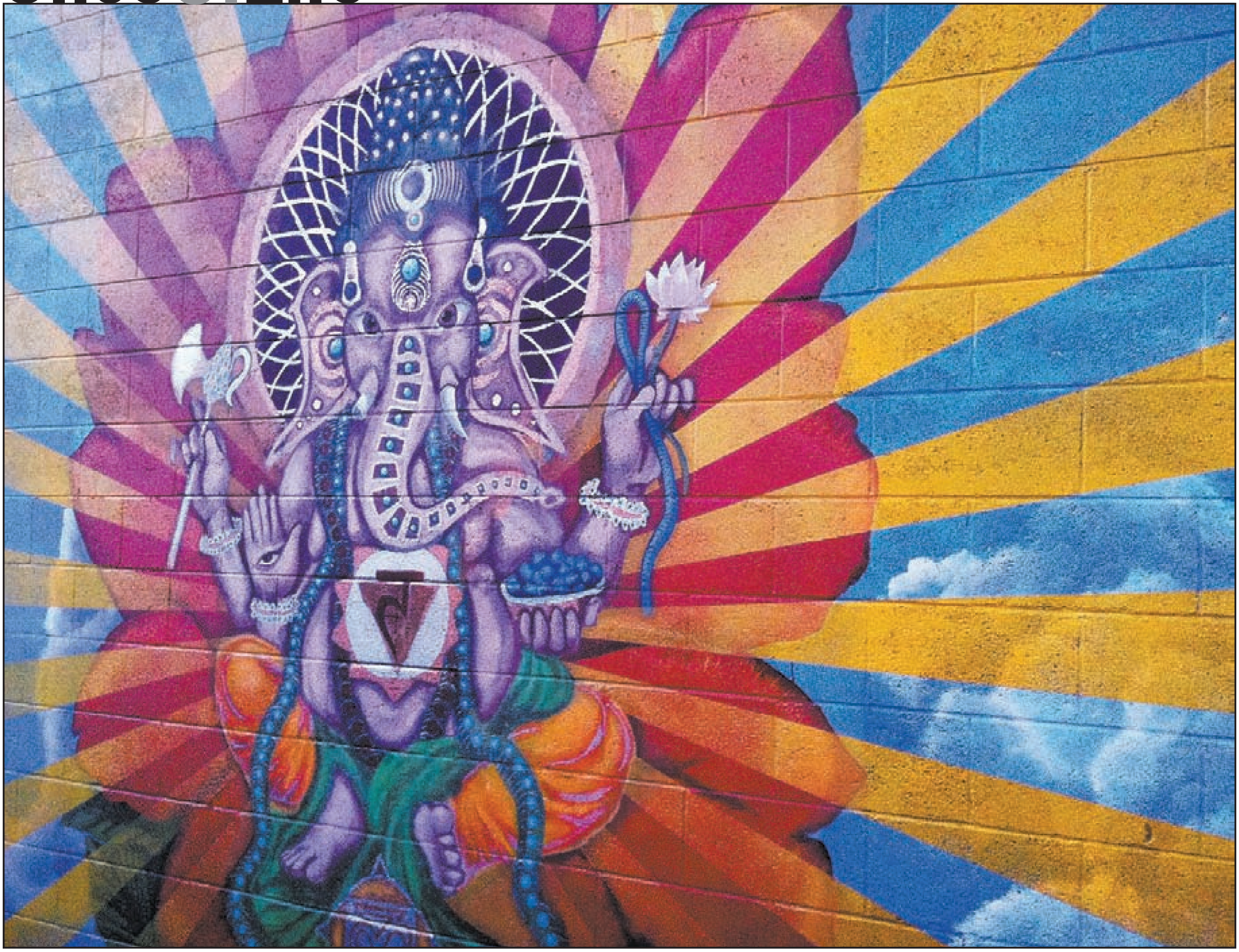
Prelude to a Kiss
Pair of tickets
Karen Boatz

Colorado Wolf and Wildlife Center
Family 4-pack walking tour
Judy Rascon

Be A Winner!

Ladies take center stage
Dreamgirls and Derby Dames prove that the ladies have what it takes to beat the winter blues. You're gonna love them! Enter to win through this week's IndyBlast; sign up at csindy.com.

SliceOfLife



Kirsten Akens

Part of Doug and Mallori Rouse's 12 Mural Project, a colorful Genesha can now be found behind CorePower Yoga's building at 623 N. Nevada Ave.

Maria, Certified Nursing Assistant

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Letters

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If your comments are mailed or e-mailed to us, we'll consider them for publication — unless you request otherwise. Please include your name, city of residence and a daytime phone number for verification.

Fracking's unknowns

If you're wondering what the crazy people outside City Hall are yelling about — after all, this is a well-established, regulated business, right? — here's the problem.

While a form of what we refer to as "fracking" has been around for years, the new method involving high-pressure and horizontal drilling, such as Ultra Petroleum has planned for Colorado Springs, is neither well-established nor well-regulated (see "Gray matters," p. 11). Even the industry admits the research is not complete enough to know what the right setbacks should be.

U.S. Rep. Jared Polis says, "While the newly proposed 500 foot buffer zone between operators and residences is better than current rules, it is not enough. In Colorado, a commercial diesel vehicle is prohibited from idling for more than five minutes within 1,000 feet of a school. The fact that drilling operations require diesel-powered compressor pumps and engines argues for a standard at least as strict as for that of a single diesel truck."

Spills and leaks are more common than the industry leads us to believe, and Ultra's record is one of the worst. The company bought a bunch of land that was not zoned for drilling under the law. The city is considering changing the rules for this company — and any others — to allow drilling in all zones.

The people outside City Hall want a real public hearing, where they can hear from scientists, researchers, members of the Environmental Protection Agency and the Bureau of Land Management. Experts on water and health, property values, infrastructure and tourism. The citizens deserve to have their questions answered by professionals not employed by the oil and gas companies, at a public forum set up only for this subject, at a time of day most people can attend, and not on the same day as the vote on the regulations is scheduled.

— Lenora Degen
Colorado Springs

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

'Some may still deny the overwhelming judgment of science, but none can avoid the devastating impact of raging fires and crippling drought and more powerful storms.'

— President Barack Obama, pledging in Monday's inaugural address to 'respond to the threat of climate change'

LongStoryShort

This summer, my grandmother died, just one day short of her 100th birthday.

Like the rest of my family, I grieved this woman who had been such a pillar of strength. Here was someone who had raised eight children in wild country. Who had scrubbed laundry by hand, and peeled potatoes with a knife with mind-bending speed.

In her final years, her suddenly frail body was a fixture on the armchair in my parents' living room, but her mind wandered often. Sometimes she'd recall riding horses as a young tomboy. Other times she'd wonder if my long-dead uncles would be showing up to the dinner table in time to say grace.

Our family members visited her often then, bending down to receive her still-hardy hugs and kisses. Living with my folks, she was safe, cared for and appreciated.

She left us quietly one morning, as my mother held her hand.

While it was hard for all of us to see her go, it was comforting to know that we had provided her with some peace.

Unfortunately, not every elderly person in our community has the same luck.

Government-owned public housing for seniors is supposed to provide a haven for those of modest means to live out their lives. But if the shocking number — and nature — of Colorado Springs police reports are any guide, as detailed in our story beginning on p. 15, our system often fails.

— J. Adrian Stanley

Don't dump Drake

An open letter to the citizen owners of Colorado Springs Utilities:

If the Martin Drake Power Plant is decommissioned, where will we get the electricity that it provides? We don't have the ability to make that up with the Nixon, Front Range, Birdsall, Manitou or Tesla plants.

Unless we begin immediate construction of another plant, we'll have to purchase the power on the market. Perhaps we could enter into a long-term contract with Tri-State, Xcel, Black Hills or another company. All charge considerably more than CSU. These long-term costs will have to be passed on to the customers.

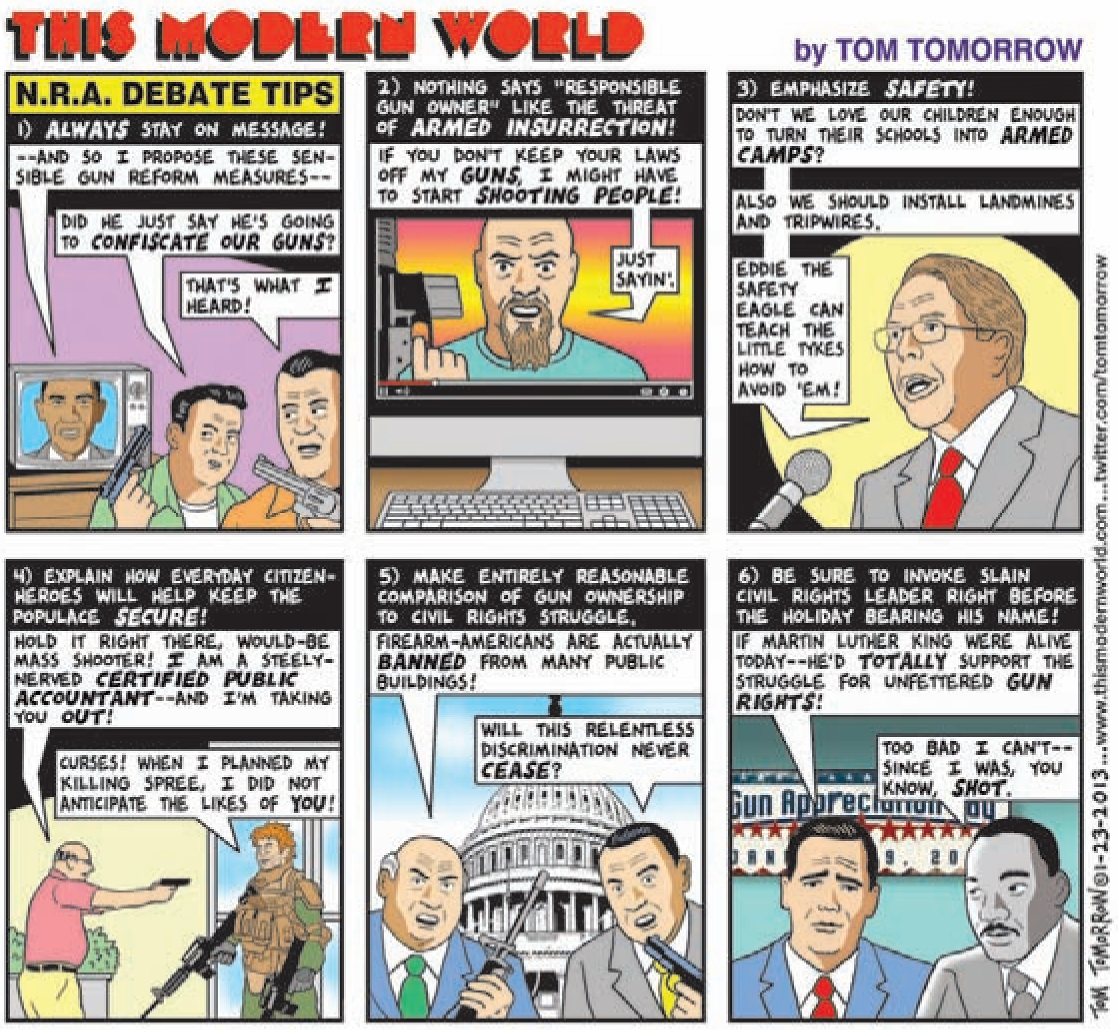
Large manufacturers located in Colorado Springs are here, in part, because of the low cost of utilities, as well as high reliability. It is simply not economically feasible to maintain a manufacturing plant here if another location can provide similar attributes at a lower cost. A decision that raises rates unnecessarily could also result in steering potential businesses away from Colorado Springs.

If we bought power, we would no longer control the generation, nor a good portion of the transmission systems that will carry this load. We'll need to expand the transmission system or use multiple companies and expand multiple transmission lines with multiple contracts (both huge money) to provide the power.

An incident at a remote plant could very well cripple the ability to provide power and may leave some in the dark for an indeterminate period of time.

What is the mayor's plan for these scenarios? Has he asked the right questions? Is he really looking out for the best interest of CSU's customers? Or is this a political land grab where he uses all resources (including using the Sierra Club as a tool), other developers and politicians to acquire this land for development of a sports stadium?

— Karl B. Shafer
Colorado Springs


THIS MODERN WORLD
by TOM TOMORROW
N.R.A. DEBATE TIPS
1) ALWAYS STAY ON MESSAGE!
--AND SO I PROPOSE THESE SENSIBLE GUN REFORM MEASURES--
DID HE JUST SAY HE'S GOING TO CONFISCATE OUR GUNS?
THAT'S WHAT I HEARD!
2) NOTHING SAYS "RESPONSIBLE GUN OWNER" LIKE THE THREAT OF ARMED INSURRECTION!
IF YOU DON'T KEEP YOUR LAWS OFF MY GUNS, I MIGHT HAVE TO START SHOOTING PEOPLE!
JUST SAYIN'.
3) EMPHASIZE SAFETY!
DON'T WE LOVE OUR CHILDREN ENOUGH TO TURN THEIR SCHOOLS INTO ARMED CAMPS?
ALSO WE SHOULD INSTALL LANDMINES AND TRIPWIRES.
EDDIE THE SAFETY EAGLE CAN TEACH THE LITTLE TYKES HOW TO AVOID 'EM!
4) EXPLAIN HOW EVERYDAY CITIZEN-HEROES WILL HELP KEEP THE POPULACE SECURE!
HOLD IT RIGHT THERE, WOULD-BE MASS SHOOTER! I AM A STEELY-NERVED CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT--AND I'M TAKING YOU OUT!
CURSES! WHEN I PLANNED MY KILLING SPREE, I DID NOT ANTICIPATE THE LIKES OF YOU!
5) MAKE ENTIRELY REASONABLE COMPARISON OF GUN OWNERSHIP TO CIVIL RIGHTS STRUGGLE.
FIREARM-AMERICANS ARE ACTUALLY BANNED FROM MANY PUBLIC BUILDINGS!
WILL THIS RELENTLESS DISCRIMINATION NEVER CEASE?
6) BE SURE TO INVOKE SLAIN CIVIL RIGHTS LEADER RIGHT BEFORE THE HOLIDAY BEARING HIS NAME!
IF MARTIN LUTHER KING WERE ALIVE TODAY--HE'D TOTALLY SUPPORT THE STRUGGLE FOR UNFETTERED GUN RIGHTS!
TOO BAD I CAN'T-- SINCE I WAS, YOU KNOW, SHOT.
Gun Apprec
TOM TOMORROW©1-23-2013...www.thismodernworld.com...twitter.com/tomtomorrow

For the common good

For 20 of the 44 years I have resided here, I have observed the workings of local government. Many op-ed letters on sundry subjects attest to my commitment to a well-run city, with great potential for its residents, present and future.

My attention at Council meetings Jan. 7-8, after about half an hour, lapsed into reverie. Memory surfaced an old bromide:

Committees of twenty deliberate plenty,
Committees of ten act now and then,
Committees of one get things done.

Following that came the aphorism of Eleanor Roosevelt:

Yesterday is history, tomorrow is mystery,

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— National Consensus Statement on Mental Health Recovery, 2011

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Michael George, social worker
Colorado State Mental Health Institute at Pueblo

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Letters

Today is a gift – that's why we call it the Present.

A peculiarity of reveries is that they begin and end abruptly. On this day my mind focus came back during discussion about increased pay for Council members. The position set forth was that better pay would attract better-caliber people to run for Council.

Sean Paige had already issued a one-word rebuttal in the morning paper: Congress. And I couldn't help but think of the devoted voluntary service given to his home town for 17 years by Mayor Bob Isaac.

Should we have this discussion about pay? Certainly; but let's remember that good public service requires much more than a fatter paycheck.

For me the disappointment in these meetings and others has been the subliminally adversarial tone vis-à-vis the mayor. Since the election, most citizens have hoped for holistic local government. Separation of powers should be a friend, not an enemy.

For a ballot issue in April, charter amendment should restore mayoral authority over Colorado Springs Utilities. To revoke Mayor Bach's contract authority would completely isolate him and voters from a virtually autonomous CSU and would be vindictive. For the common good, let's get Council and Bach on the same page.

— John A. Daly
Colorado Springs

New law of robotics

Why would we seek a device that can imitate human behavior at a level where humans can't tell the difference ("Transhuman express," cover story, Jan. 16)?

I can understand the military having a use for it — they'd be sneaky dangerous. But I'd rather the robots I deal with on a daily basis had a tell.

Computer voices are already funny, we should make them all talk like Mr. Bean. Then when they become mobile and look like us, they'll need a silly walk or something too. Asimov, plus one: "4. A robot may never score above 75 percent on any Turing test and must always have hair like Donald Trump."

— Steve Suhre
Colorado Springs

No guns in schools

From my perspective as a gun owner, gun club member, and a person licensed to carry a concealed firearm, I would like to offer a few thoughts on arming teachers, janitors or anyone else in our schools as suggested by our El Paso County sheriff ("No silver bullet," News, Jan. 16):

To become proficient in the use of a firearm takes hundreds of hours of initial training, then firing at least a few hundred rounds every month in multiple venues under the watchful eye of an experienced instructor.

Accurate shot placement is not easy. There's learning how to select proper ammunition, load, rack, carry, draw, aim, fire, reacquire the target and fire repeatedly on target, with additional training and practice needed to clear a round that has failed to feed, failed to eject, or failed to fire, and of course reload the weapon. This takes a significant commitment of time and money.

I assume the teacher would not have time to place ear protection, and will be effectively deaf for a few minutes after firing a round.

An armed person also has to understand that rounds can penetrate walls, windows and people. If they shoot at a bad guy (or guys) and miss, or even hit them but the bullet passes through them, then the odds are pretty good that an innocent person will be shot.

One more thought: When the police arrive, do they start shooting at anyone with a gun in their hand (like a teacher) or do they ask questions first? I assume they will start shooting at anyone they see with a gun in their hand.

Keep guns out of schools.

— Jeff Hall
Colorado Springs

Bad shots

How many more children must die? How many more innocent people must be gunned down before we can move forward with reasonable gun control?

Forget the public polling (even though it shows we are overwhelmingly in support of many of the president's proposals), let's look at the facts about guns. We have more guns than other countries yet are less safe.

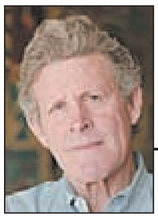
I don't want more guns, I want universal background checks, a ban on assault weapons and a ban on high-capacity magazines. What I don't want to see is more people running around with concealed weapons, and I don't want just anyone providing armed security in businesses (courtesy of Kent Lambert).

Hearing that the gun shops have been selling out scares the crap out of me, as it should all of us. People who believe these insane conspiracy theories don't need to be armed, they should be educated.

If you really need a high-capacity magazine to hunt, then either you are a really, really bad shot or you just like to shoot the s*&t out of stuff.

— Christy Le Lait
Executive director
El Paso County Democratic Party
Colorado Springs

Get Involved has moved to Volunteer Opportunities (p. 35) for the week.



CitySage

By John Hazlehurst

No rain, no snow, no relief

Discomfort, thy name is attending a meeting of the Colorado Springs Utilities Board. Board members and Utilities senior managers sit in comfortable, expensively ergonomic office chairs, while less-senior managers, media and the public squeeze into narrow rows of chairs better suited to the torture sequences of *Zero Dark Thirty*.

It's the perfect environment for the delivery of unpleasant, even apocalyptic news. For all the media care, it doesn't matter. Just let us out!

That may be why Utilities' January water outlook received scant attention last week. It was much more fun to watch **Bryce Carter** of the Sierra Club talk about Martin Drake Power Plant's emissions, or to listen to **Scott Hente** and **Jan Martin** pitch their plan for Utilities governance, than to absorb the reality-based bad news.

Droughts differ from other natural disasters (e.g., flood, fire, famine and pestilence) in that you don't know when they start, and you don't know when they end — except in retrospect. Right now, Colorado Springs is in a Stage One drought declaration. Voluntary restrictions ask customers to water no more than one day per month.

New water-use restrictions will go into effect on April 1.

In 2012, Colorado Springs received 8.11 inches of precipitation, less than half of normal. The 2012 average temperature was above normal. In its seasonal drought outlook, the U.S. Department of Agriculture predicts drought conditions will persist or intensify for all of Colorado, Wyoming, Utah, Nebraska, Kansas, New Mexico and Arizona.

In the upper Colorado River basin, snowpack Jan. 4 was 64 percent of normal. Given that the National Weather Service's three-month forecast predicts above-average temperatures and below-average precipitation in the northern, central and southern Rockies, it seems highly unlikely that snowpack will reach anything like normal levels.

In early summer of 2011, the city's reservoirs were at 83 percent of capacity, holding enough water to meet more than two years of demand. Since then, storage has dropped to 48 percent. If the drought persists, and the city doesn't implement restrictions it has planned, storage could drop to 25 percent of capacity by this fall, with less than a year's demand in reserve.

At present, about 70 percent of the city's water comes from the Colorado River, transported here through a network of reservoirs, pump stations, tunnels and pipes. We're not alone in depending on the Colorado — we partner with Las Vegas, Phoenix and Los Angeles, as well as the states governed by the 1922 Colorado River Compact. That agreement allocated the river's flow among Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, Arizona, California and Nevada (a later agreement added Mexico's water allocation).

Rather than allocating a percentage of the river's flow to each state, the Compact's authors expressed each state's share in acre-feet of water. They didn't realize that available records then included some of the wettest years in the river's history, nor did they expect global climate change decades later.

During the past 10 years, various adjustments have been made in the Compact, allowing for more flexibility in storage and more efficient allocation of the river's diminished resource. But as the drought deepens, Colorado Springs may have to impose ever-more draconian use restrictions.

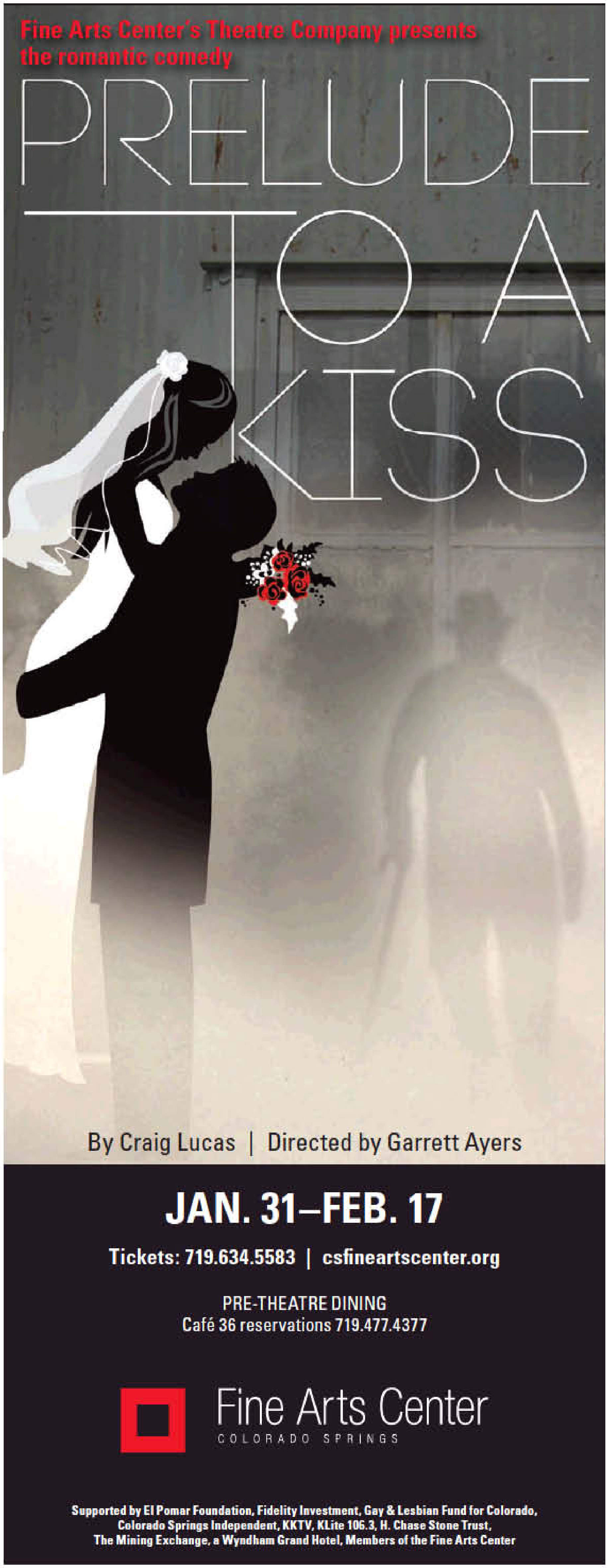
Next month, City Council will update the water shortage ordinance, which will include both voluntary and compulsory water-use restrictions. The ordinance will go into effect on April 1. No fooling.

How restrictive will it be? That depends on the mountain snowpack, or lack thereof. If this drought is the harbinger of a basin-wide reset, we may find ourselves adapting to the kind of use restrictions that Las Vegas adopted years ago. Turfgrass lawns might disappear and our city's urban forest, deprived of supplemental irrigation, might slowly die away.

Is drought the new normal? "We don't know what the 'new normal' is yet," says CSU chief water services officer **Gary Bostrom**, who has worked on water projects for 30 years. "But people 50 years from now will thank us for developing our rights on the Arkansas [River] with the Southern Delivery System, and getting less dependent on the Colorado."

Bostrom paused. "By then," he mused, "we'll all be drinking recycled wastewater anyway ..."

— hazlehurst@csindy.com



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StreetSmarts

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Sports doping — in fact, cheating and dishonesty in general — is increasingly excused, rationalized, or even advocated as competitive realism. Not everyone's buying it, though.

Kristy Driessen of ***Flying Horse*** is a ***stay-at-home mom***

What's your reaction to Lance Armstrong's admission? I'm not surprised. I have a sister-in-law who is friends with some of his friends. She heard it was going on and told us about it long before he confessed.

What's the worst part of it all? Even his confession is sleazy, made for purely selfish motives. Plus, he's a mean bully. He's planning on throwing other people under the bus out of revenge.

Will anything good come out of this? I'm bothered by the hero status of athletes. Maybe this'll change that a little.

Brent Kyle of ***Old Colorado City*** is a ***teacher***

Relate your reaction to Armstrong's fess-up. It's kind of disappointing, but the fact that it was him doing it didn't bother me more than if it were anybody else.

What's the worst part of this story? Doping gave Armstrong an enormous advantage over every honest rider.

Does it make you care less about sports? Yeah, especially the highly commercialized pro sports.

Rebecca Operhall of ***Woodland Hills*** is a ***stay-at-home mom***

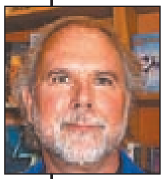
What's your read of Armstrong's confession? He was so obviously guilty that he had no other choice.

What's the worst thing about it? He not only doped, he coerced others to do it, too, and then blackmailed people to keep them from coming forward — all while painting himself as a model citizen.

How widespread is doping in athletics? I've read that it's extremely common in cycling, and there's been a series of doping scandals in baseball.

Does it make you care less about sports? We go see the Sky Sox now and then and watch a little college basketball on TV. That probably won't change.

Bruce Clark of ***Palmer Lake*** works for ***Lockheed Martin***

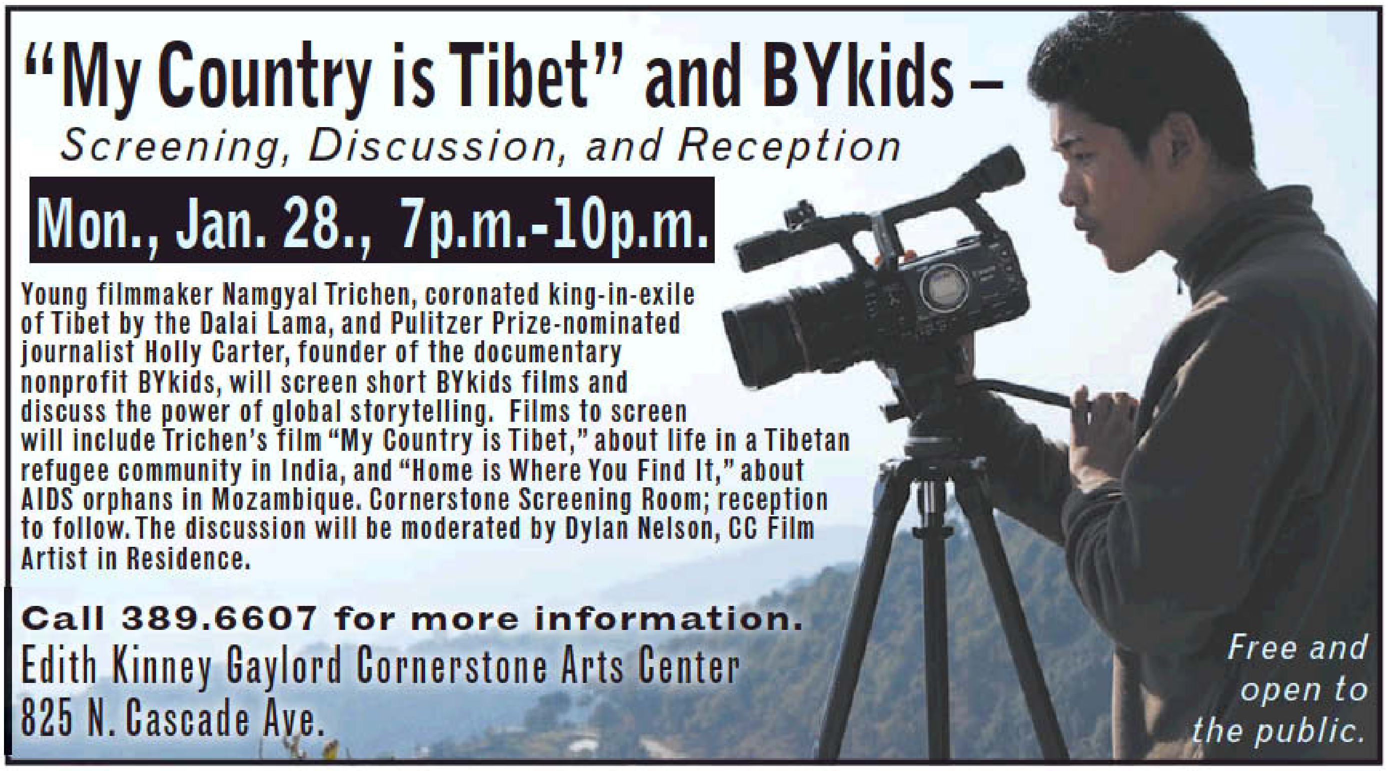


What's your reaction to Armstrong's confession? He's not atypical. So many athletes dope now — and get rewarded for it.

What's the worst aspect of this story? Who would have won all those Tours if he hadn't doped?

Is there an athlete you consider a hero? I'm a Steeler fan, but I admire Peyton Manning immensely. He's up-front and first class.

— Bob Campbell



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Between the Lines

By Ralph Routon

Hente: committed ’til the end

Scott Hente can see the likely end of his political career looming closer by the day. Come April, the term-limited City Council president will wrap up his 10-year tenure as a Colorado Springs elected official.

He’s ready to devote more time to his home-building business and his wife **Lyn** (probably not in that order). He also looks forward to paying more attention to Air Force football and basketball, being a 1975 AFA graduate and a knowledgeable fan.

So he’s beginning to reflect, and why not? Hente, now 59, has faced everything from the U.S. Olympic Committee retention deal and the Memorial Hospital lease to his own battle with prostate cancer, the recession that forced severe city budget cuts, and the nightmare of nearly losing his Mountain Shadows home in the Waldo Canyon Fire.

Still, Hente’s not quite ready for post-mortems. Not with so much still on the agenda. As we spoke for this column, Hente had no idea what would happen Tuesday, with Council members deciding on possible ballot issues such as increasing Council pay, and, as he and Council President Pro-Tem **Jan Martin** have suggested, proposing that Utilities be governed by an independent elected board, not Council.

> **‘To this day I can’t believe how much time it takes.’**

For the record, Hente likes the idea of paying Council members a higher salary, which he feels would improve the field of potential candidates who can’t afford to even consider running now.

But his final focus will be the fate of Martin Drake Power Plant. He’ll ride into the sunset convinced Drake is worth saving, and not just for a few more years. He’s also certain the NeuStream coal-scrubbing technology is worth the investment and shouldn’t be abandoned.

Asked if Drake would be gone in a decade, Hente brusquely says, “Ten years? I’m not sure I’d agree with that. Look at the good things: It’s paid-for, the low cost to produce energy, and the money we put into it for NeuStream enhances it for years into the future. I don’t see it as a plant that needs to go away anytime soon.

“I understand what drives Utilities’ costs, and I don’t want those costs to go up artificially because we get rid of a plant that’s working very well. If you convinced me Drake was a heavy polluter and causing detrimental effects to the health of the community, that would be a different story.”

Hente questions study results unveiled last week by the Sierra Club, which indicate that Drake’s coal emissions exceed federal limits and may have reached alarming levels along the mountainsides, from the Broadmoor to Manitou Springs, Garden of the Gods and northward.

“I’m not overly impressed with the methodology used in that study,” Hente says. “I have a master’s in computer science, and my thesis was on modeling and simulation. I get that stuff. But every model is only as good as the data that goes into it, and I’m not sure they used good data. Computer models are like statistics — you can rig them to give you the answer you want. That study also ignores the fact that Drake conforms to standards today.”

Utilities aside, Hente doesn’t mind offering advice for prospective new Council members who might view the time requirement as minimal.

“Nobody really understands the time issue until you’re there,” he says. “To this day I can’t believe how much time it takes. It’s become almost a full-time job, even with the strong mayor. In many ways, the time commitment is greater with this form of government. For example, we have the mayor’s counsel meetings now, and we have to work with city staff in such different ways. I realize my time went up as Council president, so maybe I’m a little biased. But I think it’s been that way for everybody.”

Hente knows that his Council days are numbered, but he’s not counting them. He’s especially proud of what Utilities has achieved.

“I don’t think the community has been served poorly by Council,” he says. “We have the lowest rates, high reliability, and we’ve won all those J.D. Power awards for service. Don’t come to me saying there are issues and problems with Utilities. I’m not seeing it.”

In a few months, though, he won’t be seeing it from the inside anymore. And it’s safe to say that when Scott Hente leaves, nobody soon will be able to replace all that experience. And perspective.

— routon@csindy.com

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Ethical examination

City panel decides to investigate Council member for alleged conflicts of interest

By Pam Zubeck

Colorado Springs' most outspoken City Council member, Tim Leigh, is under investigation for allegations he violated the city's Ethics Code, according to the city's Independent Ethics Commission.

The four-member panel decided Jan. 4 that three allegations made by David Neumann, a physicist whose scrubber technology is being installed on the city's coal-fired Martin Drake Power Plant, lie within its jurisdiction and are "non-frivolous."

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Pam Zubeck

Tim Leigh's business could benefit from Drake being shut down, says David Neumann (right).

In a Jan. 15 letter to Neumann obtained by the *Independent*, the commission said "it is appropriate to investigate" the following allegations:

- Leigh sought personal gain through a city vendor — Neumann's company, Neumann Systems Group;
- Leigh, a commercial real estate broker, has a "conflict of interest based on direct or indirect financial interests in downtown properties affected by Drake closure";
- and Leigh engaged in "activities that may create or does create [sic] the appearance of impropriety."

In addition, the commission referred to City Council additional claims by Neumann that Leigh violated the Code of Conduct contained in Council's rules, and the Council could hire a third party to investigate. Council rules require "unconflicted loyalty" to Springs citizens and bar a Council member from leading the public or media to have the impression that Council appointees are acting improperly.

President Pro Tem Jan Martin says Council has received the Ethics Commission's letter but hasn't yet discussed the alleged Code of Conduct violations.

Leigh wrote on his blog Dec. 14 that he welcomes the investigation, which he described as a "politically motivated bullying-tactic" to quell his questions about a "horrible contract" that his colleagues "blindly approved." In a brief phone interview Monday, Leigh surprisingly claimed he's been cleared by the commission: "There's a letter that exonerated me of all the allegations," he said. Apprised of the *Independent*'s deadline, he failed to produce the letter by press time.

Standard procedure

The city's ethics code, adopted in 2007, bars elected officials, city employees and appointees to city boards and commissions from engaging in conflicts of interest, which are defined as "any personal or financial relationship that could influence or be perceived to influence the representation or conduct of business for, or on behalf of, the City." The code also defines a conflict as being "an appearance of impropriety."

City Attorney Chris Melcher says the city requires employees and elected officials to complete an online test after reading the ethics code. City appointees also are trained, and vendors' contracts require their compliance with the ethics code.

The code is enforced only if complaints are filed with Melcher's office, which forwards them to the Ethics Commission.

Jurisdiction of the commission, whose business is conducted largely in secret in the City Attorney's Office, is limited to complaints of activities that took place within the past year. If not frivolous, complaints are investigated by the commission, which can issue subpoenas for witnesses and documents, if need be. Commission findings are conveyed to Council in confidence.

As for sanctions, the code requires a person found to have breached the public trust for private gain to pay the city double the amount of financial value of whatever benefit was derived from the breach. Council also can impose a reprimand or written censure, or even require forfeiture of office, Melcher notes.

Of the four complaints cited in Ethics Commission meeting minutes since 2007, the most high-profile is clearly one from 2009, concerning whether former Mayor Lionel Rivera had a conflict of interest in his relationship with local businessman Ray Marshall. Marshall was chosen to develop a U.S. Olympic Committee headquarters building even as Rivera, a stockbroker, was accepting commissions on Marshall's investments. The commission's nine-page report recommended no action, saying Rivera didn't violate the ethics code because the USOC, not the mayor, chose the developer.

The commission consists of retired Air Force Brig. Gen. Malham Wakin, who teaches at the Air Force Academy; former assistant city attorney Stephen Hook; Colorado Technical University admissions advisor Eileen Docherty-Katz, and business consultant Thomas Conter.

Leigh in the spotlight

It took three tries for Neumann to get the ball rolling on Leigh, who was elected to a two-year at-large term in 2011 and now is running for the District 1 seat (with an endorsement from the Housing and Building Association of Colorado Springs). Neumann's first two complaints, dated Nov. 27 and Dec. 10, asked that Melcher, the Utilities Board and City Council investigate. Melcher didn't forward those to the Ethics Commission because the letters didn't ask for a commission investigation. He did send them to the Council, which doubles as the Utilities Board.

Finally, on Dec. 13, Neumann wrote to Melcher a third time asking the Ethics Commission to investigate, and the Jan. 4 meeting was then scheduled.

The allegations:

- Personal gain: This claim stems from Leigh's alleged effort to "monetize" the Neumann company.

In an affidavit written by Neumann obtained by the *Indy*, Neumann says Jim Johnson, owner of GE Johnson Construction Co., called him on or about Aug. 22 urging him to call Leigh about a potential customer for his technology, which removes sulfur dioxide from coal-fired power plants. In an interview, Johnson says Leigh asked him to call Neumann because Leigh didn't think Neumann would return his own phone call. That was the extent of his involvement, Johnson says.

Neumann told his vice president of business development, Rob Fredell, to contact Leigh, which he did. Leigh returned the call on or about Aug. 24. Fredell soon sensed that Leigh wanted to be the go-between for a venture capital deal.

"He implied he would set up the deal for a percentage of the deal," Fredell says in an interview. "I immediately saw the potential conflict of interest, and I was very uncomfortable going forward. I terminated the call as politely as I could and had no further contact."

- Conflict of interest: This claim is tied to Leigh's business, Hoff & Leigh, and what, if anything, it stands to gain if the Drake plant is closed. As of press time, Hoff & Leigh's website showed listings for seven properties with a total value of $2.3 million within 1.5 miles of Drake. Neumann's affidavit adds that he met with Leigh at least three times, during which Leigh talked of closing Drake and "building a sports stadium in its place as a way of rejuvenating the downtown area."
- The Ethics Commission also will determine whether any of Leigh's behavior and statements comprise an appearance of impropriety.

A secretive process

Luis Toro, director of Colorado Ethics Watch, a nonpartisan watchdog group, reviewed Neumann's affidavit and letters of complaint.

"I hope this Ethics Commission doesn't sweep this under the rug," he says, "because there's enough here that gets to real ethics violations," namely the personal gain and conflict-of-interest contentions.

The Ethics Commission, which is under no mandatory schedule, has given Neumann and Leigh until Jan. 30 to submit a list of witnesses and documents for its review, according to its Jan. 15 letter. Neumann says he'll cooperate with the commission members "to the maximum extent possible." But how much of his material, or Leigh's, will be made available publicly is unclear.

As Melcher explains, "The Independent Ethics Commission will conduct the investigation confidentially, will deliver their decisions confidentially to the complainant and the accused and then to City Council. Then Council determines whether they will release that publicly."

Toro takes issue with such secrecy, but notes that's allowed under the state's ethics laws, which served as a model for the city's.

— zubeck@csindy.com

Gray matters

Council members find more questions than answers on the issue of fracking

By Chet Hardin

As of December, Colorado Springs City Council looked poised to pass an ordinance on oil and gas drilling regulations. Despite vociferous opposition outside and inside its chambers, the first reading of that ordinance passed fairly easily, 6 to 3.

Susan France/*Boulder Weekly*

Public concerns led Longmont voters to outlaw fracking.

But a funny thing happened on the way to a second reading: Council decided it had some more concerns. The second vote was postponed. And last Tuesday's work session on drilling, which featured Kyle Campbell, the city's local government liaison to the state Oil and Gas Conservation Commission, led to even more questions.

"I think that what Council is finding," says Council President Scott Hente, "is that the more you dive into it, the more information you feel like you need to have."

With Council elections coming up April 2, the pressure is on for its current members to settle the issue. As Councilman Val Snider explains, "there's the chance that we would have six new Council members. I would like to get it done before [the swearing-in on] April 15."

Hente adds that he wants to be sure his group handles the process well, but that he "would think that, one way or another, this Council would get it resolved."

Can oil companies be forced to hold disaster insurance?

Foremost among the questions that lingered after last week's meeting: Will the city be able to regulate where the oil and gas industry drills?

It would only make sense, argued Councilor Tim Leigh, who soon after the ordinance's first reading pledged to switch his vote from "yes" to "no."

Why, when the city is able to restrict car sales to specific zones, would it not be able to likewise regulate drilling?

"I just have a really hard time wrapping my arms around that," he said.

Hente expanded on the issue.

"If I own a vacant lot, I have a right to use that lot. I bought that lot, I have private property rights, but the city can restrict what I do on that lot," he said. "And in some cases you prohibit what I do on that. So if you can prohibit what I can do, and take away some of my private property rights, I don't understand why the same rationale isn't applied to private mineral rights."

Longmont lesson

The answer, Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission director Matt Lepore told Council, isn't clear-cut.

"It's an undecided question of law, whether a local jurisdiction can ban drilling in a residential zone or any other zone," he said. "That's probably the key reason the state elected to sue Longmont."

As Longmont native and activist Sam Schabacker has told the *Indy*, citizens in the conservative Boulder County city of 87,000 were concerned in November 2011 to learn that an oil and gas company "wanted to come in and put a series of wells next to homes, a middle school and a reservoir."

These citizens pressured their city council into undertaking a months-long process of drafting the regulations, he says. When adopted in July 2012, they included, among other things, restrictions on residential drilling. Claiming that Longmont had overstepped its regulatory authority, the Colorado Attorney General's office filed a lawsuit.

But the group known as "Our Longmont" wasn't done. It put forward a ballot measure to ban fracking within city limits altogether, and it passed with 60 percent of the vote. The Colorado Oil & Gas Association responded by launching its own lawsuit in December, arguing that Longmont was illegally preventing industry from exercising its mineral rights.

These two suits highlight the complexity surrounding drilling: If a company owns the mineral rights under someone else's property, the surface owner is expected to allow the company to extract those minerals. Likewise, a community is expected to allow a company broad access to extract its minerals.

"Nobody's taking anybody's minerals," Schabacker contends. "We're prohibiting the specific process of hydraulic fracturing."

He compares it to fishing.

"You understand that you don't have the right to throw sticks of dynamite into the lake," he says. "Furthermore, you don't have the expectation that someone is going to compensate you for all those fish that you can't catch."

Regardless, as of now these court challenges are likely years from being settled.

For the Springs ordinance, Hente has asked the city attorney's office to provide case law on the matter.

Running out of time

Among myriad other questions:

Who owns the mineral rights under public parks? If an oil and gas company owns those rights and wants to drill, is there any way to prevent it? Can the city hire an inspector, or does it have to rely on the state's inspectors? Can a city pass additional air-quality monitoring requirements?

And can Council force oil companies to hold insurance for major disasters, such as fires, spills and the like? (The state has bonding requirements, according to Lepore, that the companies return the surface to its pre-drilling condition, but there is no insurance requirement for such specific, major problems.)

Council anticipates answers to these questions, provided by Campbell and the city attorney's office, for its Feb. 25 informal meeting.

It could decide to move forward with a second reading on the current ordinance, but more likely, says Council president pro-tem Jan Martin, the ordinance will have to be rewritten or amended.

In that case, she says, they'd have to "start all over again," with the ordinance going back for a first reading on March 12, with a second reading two weeks later.

— chet@csindy.com

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Noted

News briefs from the Front Range

PERA trial date set

An Oct. 28 trial has been set to decide a dispute between the city of Colorado Springs and the Public Employees' Retirement Association over how much is due for Memorial Hospital employees' pensions.

In its 40-year lease deal with University of Colorado Health, the city agreed to accept liability for the pensions of some 4,000 employees who were forced out of PERA when they became UCH employees Oct. 1.

UCH paid the city $185 million to cover that expense as well as another $74 million up-front lease fee. PERA contends it's due most if not all of that to make sure all of Memorial employees receive the benefits to which they are entitled under the plan. The city contends it owes PERA nothing, because the city doesn't cover the pensions of people who leave city employment. — ***PZ***

Drake task force named

Nine local residents were to be appointed to serve as the Martin Drake Task Force on Tuesday, after the *Indy*'s press time. They are: Retired businessman Alan Hale, Atmel executive Dan Malinaric, state Department of Corrections engineer Diana Dean, Energy Resource Center director Howard Brooks, sustainable energy consultant Jason Doedderlein, electric and gas consultant Robert Holzwarth, political consultant Sarah Brittain Jack, Colorado Private School Association director and lobbyist Steve Durham, and University of Colorado at Colorado Springs faculty director of the Economic Forum, Tom Zwirlein.

In addition, the task force will be co-chaired by Councilors Lisa Czelatdko and Brandy Williams.

Due to meet for the first time Friday, the panel will develop a request for proposals for a study of decommissioning and removing Martin Drake Power Plant. The study also will look at how to replace the power Drake now generates. — ***PZ***

Wildfire funding in doubt

A congressional bill almost made life a lot easier for those suffering from the ongoing fallout of Colorado's wildfires.

If approved, the bill would have provided $125 million for emergency watershed protection in fire areas. The Senate approved it, but the House nixed it.

Sen. Michael Bennet was among those who fought for the funding to be included in a bill that also issued relief to Hurricane Sandy victims. In a press release, the senator said he was "extremely disappointed" that wildfire relief funding was not included.

El Paso County Commissioner Sallie Clark, who had also been a proponent of the funding, said the Waldo Canyon and High Park Coalition would continue to advocate for mitigation funding in Colorado's burn areas. In fact, regional supporters of watershed funding met on the west side recently to discuss the need for more funding.

The Senate was set to look at an amended funding bill Tuesday, after the *Independent*'s deadline. — ***JAS***

Lambert aims high

It's a challenging year for Colorado's Republican legislators to advance a pro-gun agenda, especially with the state's Legislature under firm control of Democrats. Regardless, Colorado Springs Sen. Kent Lambert has introduced a provocative bill.

If passed, Lambert's legislation would put pressure on businesses that don't allow weapons on their property to hire armed security guards, or change their gun policy. If not, and that business falls victim to a mass shooting, it would then be liable to lawsuit from anyone injured.

According to KOAA, Lambert's goal is to limit the number of places someone could mount a successful shooting spree: "If they have the motivation to go out and kill people, especially a large number of people, they are going to look for those places where they're not going to be confronted." — ***CH***

Neumann modifies role

Following a bout with heart problems, David Neumann has stepped down as CEO of Neumann Systems Group, which is installing sulfur dioxide scrubbers on the city's Martin Drake Power Plant. Todd Tiahrt of Kansas, who served 16 years in the U.S. House of Representatives until 2011, took his place on Monday.

"He has exceptional qualifications and exceptional contacts that will help grow the company," says Neumann, who will stay on as president and chairman of the board, as well as owner.

Tiahrt, a former Boeing employee, has a consulting firm specializing in aviation/aerospace, defense, energy, and government relations. In Congress, he served on the Defense Appropriations and House Select Intelligence committees.

NSG, recently nominated for an Edison Award which recognizes innovation, has been at the center of a controversy over retiring Drake instead of installing the Neumann technology. — ***PZ***

HBA makes Council picks

Though not all candidates were interviewed during the endorsement process, the Housing & Building Association of Colorado Springs has chosen its slate for City Council. Voters will elect Councilors from six districts in the April 2 city election.

The HBA choices: Tim Leigh, District 1; Angela Dougan, District 2; Keith King, District 3; Deborah Hendrix, District 4; Al Loma, District 5; and David Moore, District 6.

The endorsements were issued weeks before the Feb. 6 filing deadline, meaning others could enter the race and not even be considered for support from the HBA, one of the city's top political entities. — ***PZ***

Compiled by Chet Hardin, J. Adrian Stanley and Pam Zubeck. For more briefs, see csindy.com.

Can’t stop the bleating

While the military explores other approaches, local medics continue to kill animals in the name of learning

By J. Adrian Stanley

The blood and guts are disturbing on their own, but what really churns the stomach are the sounds.

The sickening crunch of bones breaking under the pressure of hedge trimmers, the moans, and the joking and whistling of U.S. Coast Guard personnel as they spill the innards of still-breathing animals. This is documentation of a “live tissue training,” an educational course for military medics that uses animals — usually goats and pigs — to simulate wounded soldiers.

‘Live tissue training’ at Fort Carson’s Camp Red Devil claimed the lives of locally sourced goats last week.

The video was released by the People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals in April 2012. Leaked by a concerned secret informant who filmed it in Virginia, it caused uproar among activists and government officials alike. It may have prompted the 2013 National Defense Authorization Act requirement that the military set a timeline by March to largely phase out the use of live animals in such training exercises.

Fort Carson spokesperson Maj. Earl Brown calls the PETA video “kind of horrifying.” It’s different when Fort Carson does LTT, he insists: “We do not torture or mutilate these animals in any way.”

But Brown isn’t going to apologize for the post using animals in its training, even as recently as last week at Camp Red Devil in Penrose. LTT is important preparation for the battlefield, he says, “because it allows the soldiers to deal with the stress of trying to stop the bleeding.”

‘False dichotomy’

Justin Goodman, director of laboratory investigations for PETA, says his organization has been fighting LTT for three decades. Along the way, members have heard of animals being stabbed, shot, dismembered, set on fire, and strapped to small explosives.

The government requires that the animals be properly anesthetized before being injured, and humanely euthanized afterward; Goodman says that doesn’t always happen. In fact, the U.S. Department of Agriculture cited government contractor Tier 1 Group LLC for violating the Animal Welfare Act by improperly anesthetizing the goats in PETA’s outrageous video — its second such violation.

It’s worth noting that the citation didn’t prevent Tier 1 from getting a $1.7 million government contract in May to perform more trainings — a move that outraged 11 congressional representatives, who formally called for an investigation in September. (The Department of Defense is looking into the matter.)

Federal regulations require that alternatives to animals “be considered and used whenever possible ... if such alternative methods produce scientifically or educationally valid or equivalent results.” But PETA claims the rule has been ignored and that the government kills around 10,000 animals each year in LTT.

These days, the military can purchase life-like dummies that feature veins and arteries that “bleed.” In August 2012, the scientific journal *Military Medicine* published a study of physicians and paramedics in the Israel Defense Forces who were trained in battlefield medical procedures using patients, dummies or LTT. Following the training, participants were asked how confident they felt about their skills. According to an abstract, “Manikin and supervised and unsupervised patient experience exhibited positive associations with self-confidence, but (animal) model experience did not.”

Goodman co-authored another 2012 study in *Military Medicine* stating that 22 of 28 member nations of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization use other training methods instead of LTT. The paper also noted that virtual reality and cadavers may be options in some cases.

“The military sets this up as a false dichotomy,” Goodman says. “It’s not a choice between saving animals or saving human beings.”

Not real enough

The military does use the high-tech dummies at times, and Brown has had a chance to work with them in the past. But he says in his experience nothing compares to the real thing.

“It’s so much different, sticking through a rubber plastic training body than it is when you’re actually sticking a live patient,” he says.

He also estimates that using dummies is about “eight times” more expensive than using animals.

Brown emphasizes that during Carson exercises, trained vets anesthetize the animals — which, on Jan. 16 and 17, were locally sourced goats. Trained medics then use scalpels to make incisions, and medics in training are instructed on how to stop the bleeding. There are no explosives or hedge trimmers involved, he says.

Brown says LTT helped him to react effectively overseas when Iraqi civilians were injured by an IUD in front of him. He calls the experience of applying tourniquets “agonizing because you don’t want to cause any more harm than is necessary to save a life”; having performed such first aid on a live body before was invaluable, he says.

At Brown’s suggestion, the *Indy* also called Army Lt. Col. Melinda Morgan for further information on why the military believes LTT is valuable. She didn’t return repeated phone calls before deadline.

Carson spokesperson Loran Doane, however, notes that effective training is important, since nearly 86 percent of deaths occur on the battlefield. He says the Army is looking into a variety of other training techniques but says, “[U]ntil there are validated alternatives, the experience and confidence gained by the use of live animals in teaching life-saving procedures must remain a viable training method.”

— stanley@csindy.com

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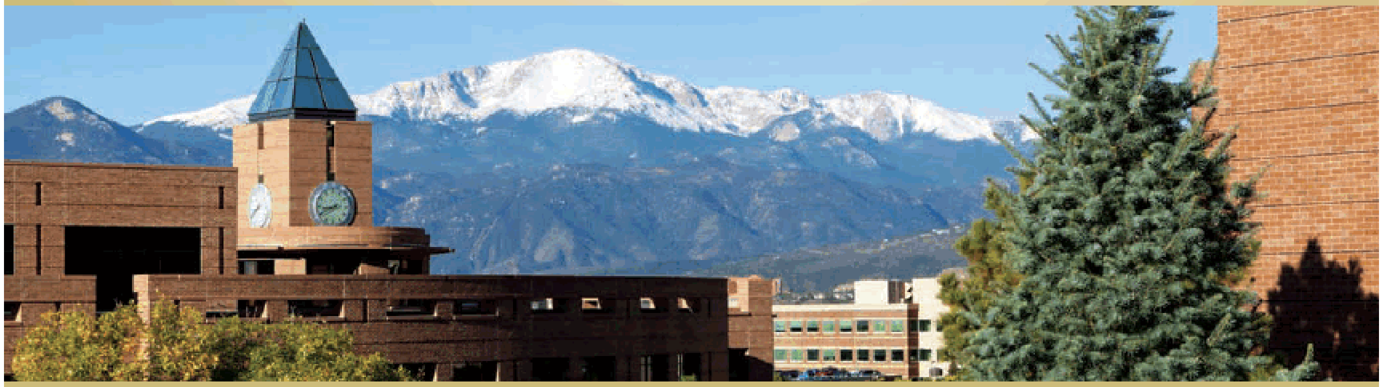

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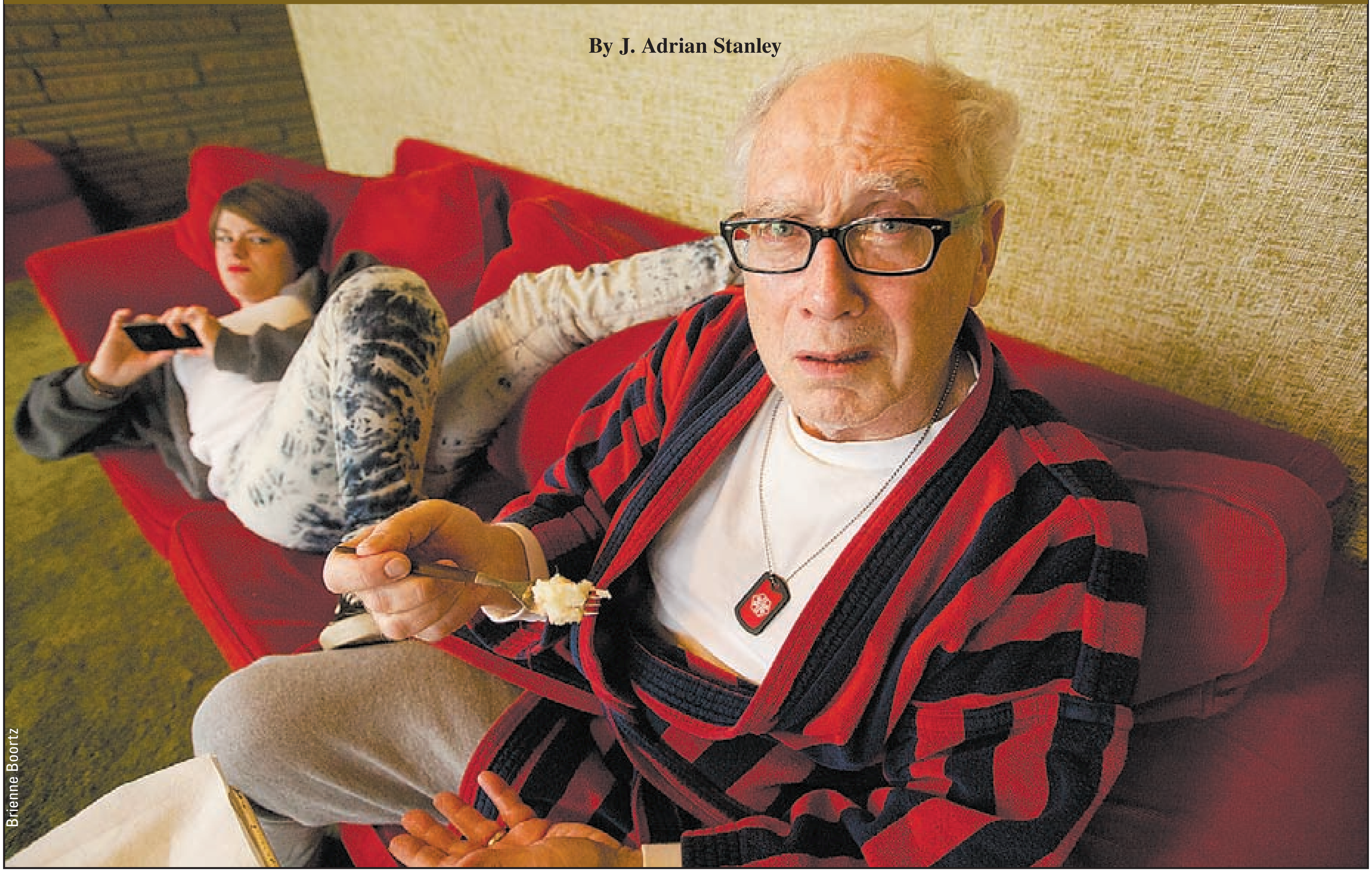
The Old & the Restless

A youth infusion into Springs senior housing is threatening residents' serenity — and safety

By J. Adrian Stanley



Brienne Boortz

Young people with disabilities — and with their own lifestyles and issues — often rub up against the elderly in the Housing Authority's 'senior' buildings.

Editor's note: *Tenants' names have been withheld from this story because (1) the Housing Authority agreed to give the* Independent *visual access to records without identifying information, and (2) tenants generally refused to be named due to fear for their safety, ongoing police investigations, and concerns that they could be put at risk of eviction.*

In 1955, St. Louis welcomed the future with the opening of the first set of apartments in the Pruitt-Igoe government housing project. An undertaking of immense scale — 30-some buildings containing around 2,500 apartments — Pruitt-Igoe was meant to bring poor people into a future outside broken-down tenements, which often didn't even offer running water.

At first, the new set-up was great. But then ... well, everything from population shifts to bad public policy to crime conspired against it. Within a few years, "the projects" were on their way to redefining disaster in American social programs.

Things have generally transformed for the better since that ill-executed urban renewal wave of the '50s and '60s. Government subsidies for private housing now dominate the landscape nationwide, and many remaining government-owned buildings are relatively small.

The Housing Authority of the City of Colorado Springs, for instance, offers traditional family housing largely in inconspicuous homes scattered across the city. Its nine modest apartment buildings, each with 25 to 99 apartments, are set aside for "senior" housing. Brimming with grey-haired grandparents, these buildings are a far cry from the Pruitt-Igoes of the past.

But they aren't all the sleepy, safe spots you might expect, either.

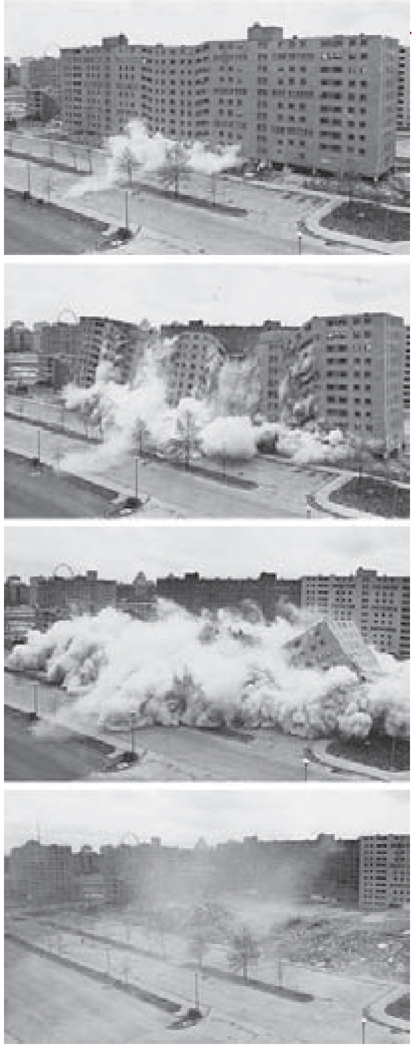
At Centennial Plaza Apartments, at 516 E. Kiowa St., police were called for criminal concerns more than 200 times between Jan. 1, 2011 and Oct. 20, 2012. Among the call descriptions are seven for "assault," four for "drugs - narcotics," six for "weapons," one for "sexual assault" and one for "explosion."

In fact, five of those nine senior buildings averaged at least 1.5 police calls for every unit over that same period of time (see "Senior portraits," p. 17). At Prospect Lake Apartments, 812 S. Meade Ave., a resident named Joe says his younger neighbors have threatened to kill him on more than one occasion, and spoken of gang connections.

In response, Joe arms himself daily. "If somebody walks in here with a machine gun," he says, "I have the firepower to make sure they don't walk out."

But it's hard to imagine Joe in such an action-hero role. As he says, "I'm too old for this." Indeed, he's dying.

Like most of the residents consulted for this story, Joe can't understand why the Housing Authority can't provide him some peace and quiet in his final years.



U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Pruitt-Igoe was torn down in stages. This large demo took place in 1972; it was televised.

Bradley Flora

Housing Authority head Gene Montoya wants the situation improved. But, he says, making any change involves a long, bureaucratic process.

"They keep moving in these thugs," he says bitterly.

Housing Authority executive director Gene Montoya explains that multiple issues contribute to the high police-call volumes at the senior buildings (see "Outsiders and infighters," p. 19). But the biggest problem the Authority has is purely governmental.

Federal enrollment rules are set by the main funder of the Authority's programs, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. And due to program requirements, seven of the nine Springs senior buildings must house seniors *and* people with disabilities, no matter their age.

"If you're disabled," Montoya explains, "you're considered the same as elderly. So you could be 30 years old, been injured in a motorcycle accident, and be eligible to move into the elderly building."

In 2011, a long waiting list for the elderly buildings was exhausted, and new people were invited to apply. While in past years, nearly all applicants were seniors, this time Montoya notes in an e-mail to the *Independent*, "Approximately 70% of the applicants were disabled and younger than the 62 years of age.

"What had always been a smaller, but persistent problem [with crime], expanded with the influx of the younger population."

Guns, drugs and kisses

Prospect Lake Apartments is wedged between Memorial Park and Evergreen Cemetery, a quiet stucco-and-brick complex with green balconies.

On a sunny Wednesday, the place is serene. A few curious residents stare over their balconies' rails. A couple guys move furniture into a waiting truck. An elderly man on a scooter drives outside for a smoke, then wheels back in, smiling.

I ask him if he feels safe here. He says he does, adding jokingly, "If it gets too rough, I get my walking stick out and straighten them out."

Joe says he too felt safe here, until about a year ago. He doesn't want to go into details, but says his problems are with a newer resident, who's younger and disabled. On any given day, Joe might find 20-something friends of this resident sleeping in the laundry room, or be awakened by loud music, drunk fighting, or someone kicking his door. And there are the threats.

"I can't even have my family here because I fear for their safety," he says. "You never know who's lurking around."

Joe says he feels powerless to change the situation. Like other residents consulted by the *Independent*, he fears that if he complains too often to the Authority, officials will find a way to evict him.

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"They treat the good people like poop," he says, "and they let the bad people run off and do whatever they want."

Across town, at the Katharine Bates Apartments at 2660 W. Uintah St., Jack, a middle-aged man with disabling illnesses, says he too has seen an increase in crime. In just the last year, he says, he's witnessed serious drug use on the part of at least two residents, prostitution on the part of another, and violence from another. After complaining about a neighbor's threatening display of several guns, Jack noticed bullets placed on the roof of his car.

"I really don't look down on the people in my building," says Jack, who acknowledges that he's a former drug user himself. "I just have a problem when they bring it to my doorstep."

Jack says he worked long and hard to turn his life around, and being near drugs and crime again brings up all his old issues. Consequently, he's looking for a new place to live. But he's worried about all the "old ladies" that he'll leave behind.

"There's people there that are close to 100 years old, and something bad is going to happen," he says. "... I don't want to see some innocent lady come out of her apartment and be murdered in the lobby."

At least one Bates senior indeed is scared. Wendy, 81, says she used to love to have her grandkids over, and to take them out for walks. Now, she says, "I wouldn't even think about going out the back of the building. It's just not safe anymore."

Barbara Turk and Terri Shaver, who each manage half of the Authority's senior buildings, don't deny there are problems. In fact, they have tales of their own. Shaver remembers a tenant who used to walk the halls with a knife.

Turk recalls a middle-aged disabled tenant who took a young lover. The younger man took to sweethearting the older ladies in the building for gifts. Eventually, he kissed one of them on the mouth. The elderly woman was terrified by the incident and called the police.

"This guy's in his 20s, and she's in her 60s or 70s," Turk says, still sounding exasperated.

Of course, not all residents with disabilities are troublemakers, Turk is quick to note: "You have some really good, young, disabled people that don't cause any problems."

And it's true that seniors have committed a few crimes of their own. Years ago, the Authority cooperated with police in a meth sting targeting an elderly woman's apartment; neighbors still recall that SWAT Team bust with alarm. There have been other cases in which a senior's younger relatives have stirred up trouble.

But Turk and Shaver say criminal cases involving seniors are rare.

"[There's] a few — a very, very few," Turk says. "Most of [the older tenants'] squabbles are between themselves. 'Oh, she looked at me wrong,' 'Oh, she's this,' 'Oh, she's that.' There's nothing of this magnitude."

Senior moments

Police activity from Jan. 1, 2011 through Oct. 20, 2012

Apartment complex	Number of units	Police calls re: criminal behavior
Acacia Park, 104 E. Platte Ave.	61	109
Katharine Bates, 2660 W. Uintah St.	50	88
Centennial Plaza, 516 E. Kiowa St.	99	206
*Senior Heritage Plaza, 1410 N. Hancock Ave.	33	37
Franklin Square, 605 N. Franklin St.	32	37
Crestview, 3880 Van Teylingen Drive	60	80
Prospect Lake, 812 S. Meade Ave.	25	41
*Southview Plaza, 1462 E. Fountain Blvd.	31	32
Casa De Cerro, 915 N. Yuma St.	80	192

Senior-only

Sources: Housing Authority of Colorado Springs, Colorado Springs Police Department

Getting in, staying in

When it comes to senior housing's admission process, rules — not people — usually determine who will be accepted and who will be rejected.

Seven of nine senior buildings in Colorado Springs are open to anyone who's a senior or has a documented disability, is considered low-income by program standards, and doesn't set off alarms during background checks. Criminal records are examined, generally via a LexisNexis database, and prior landlords are called.

Nettie Ausborne, the Authority's verification manager, says reasons for disqualification include pedophilia, violent crime, any felony within the last five years (though a felonious applicant can be considered if enrolled in a treatment program), owing any landlord more than $3,500, owing any housing authority money, or having an eviction from a housing authority within the last five years.

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If an applicant is disqualified for any reason, no matter how obvious, he is entitled to a public hearing by the Housing Authority explaining the rationale.

Otherwise, if an applicant meets the requirements, and is next on the waiting list, he must be accepted.

"We're in the business of housing people," Turk says. "If they qualify, they qualify."

Once a tenant gets in, it's incredibly difficult to get that tenant out. Take the case of a man we'll call Tom. Soon after moving to Centennial Plaza in late 2010, Tom began behaving explosively toward his guests and threatening other tenants. A few months later, Shaver discovered the middle-aged, disabled man had a recent domestic violence felony the Authority's background check had failed to note.

But it was too late to get rid of Tom easily; he was in the program.

In August 2011, Shaver went to check on her Centennial Plaza residents. Seniors were in the building cafeteria eating lunch, when a commotion outside turned their collective heads.

It was a friend of Tom's, beating a woman just outside the windows.

An official Authority report addressed to Tom would later describe the incident as follows: "[A] male guest of yours pulled a female out of a car window and struck her repeatedly assaulting her. A small child was present in one of the cars. Building management and building residents saw the incident. As building management called police, you ran out of the building and started yelling, 'go on, get the fuck out of here' repeatedly."

Shaver, who says she was shaken by the incident, says, "It was crazy; it was just like a mess."

With plenty of witnesses, it would seem evicting Tom for criminal conduct would be easy. Authority leases are clear that residents are responsible for their guests' behavior. It still took Shaver two months.

Giving the boot

The Housing Authority lacks the power of most landlords. It cannot choose to not renew a lease. Nor can it evict in the traditional sense.

According to the Colorado Bar Association, a standard Colorado landlord who wants to evict a tenant for lease violations can have a summons served, and take the matter before a judge. If the trial is decided in the landlord's favor, law enforcement can start to move the tenant's belongings within 48 hours. The whole process might take as little as a couple weeks.

By comparison, Montoya explains, federal law requires a housing authority to give a tenant that violates a lease for any reason other than unpaid rent a full 30-day notice of eviction, followed by a grievance hearing. Then state law kicks in, and tenants are given another three days to correct the problem.

If the issue isn't resolved, the Authority calls its lawyers, who cost about $250 an hour, and takes the matter to court. Assuming it prevails, the Authority may still have to pay $120 plus mileage to the El Paso County Sheriff's Office to remove the tenant. And even then, a tenant can appeal directly to HUD or to the Colorado Civil Rights Commission.

The Authority managed to evict 39 tenants in 2011 and 51 tenants in 2012. Not all went quietly: Since 2010, the Authority has seen seven civil rights complaints decided in its favor, and paid a settlement in an eighth case (though it did not admit fault).

"Sometimes, with our elderly, they envision that if I've told you that he's a problem, and Mrs. Smith has told you that he's a problem, then you should get him out of the building," Montoya says. "Well, if he is a problem, we do get him out of the building, but it's that process that we have to follow."

Janice Rodriquez, HUD's division director for the Office of Public Housing, notes there are some exceptions. In cases considered to affect the "health and safety" of residents, cases where there is "violent or drug-related activity" or "any criminality that resulted in a felony," Rodriquez says, Colorado authorities can expedite evictions, taking them straight to the courts.

But Pam Simon, the Authority's asset management supervisor, says that process is more difficult than it sounds. Judges usually won't accept an expedited eviction for criminal behavior unless there is a conviction. And early on, when the problems start, there usually isn't one.

In fact, Simon says, it's always difficult to evict for criminal behavior, even using the

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Bradley Flora

Security cameras and, in some cases, guards are meant to improve safety.

longer process, because the Authority must show that a "preponderance of evidence" proves its case — usually through a combination of police reports and witness testimony. That can be tough to come by, especially since most residents won't testify against a neighbor they fear. Thus, staff often have to wait to pursue a criminal eviction until they've witnessed an incident in person.

Often, Housing Authority staff say, it's a better bet to pursue an eviction on other grounds.

"The easiest and the quickest way for us to evict is nonpayment," Simon says, "because it's a 14-day eviction instead of a 30-day eviction. In fact, in some of the programs, it's just a three-day eviction."

A lasting solution

Decades ago, Montoya notes, housing authority directors could throw someone out on the street overnight for no reason. And they did.

"In Pueblo," he says, "the executive director [in the 1960s] ... would show up in the morning and tell you [that] you needed to move out that day, and if you didn't move out, the maintenance men would come that evening and put your stuff out. So there were no processes."

Laws these days do protect innocent tenants. But the law of unintended consequences has always been strong in government housing, which deals with that most-complicated unit: the family home.

After Pruitt-Igoe met the wrecking ball in the '70s, for instance, experts laid some of the blame on a welfare rule that banned able-bodied men from living in a home where a woman received government aid. At the time it was conceived, the rule was likely viewed as fiscally responsible, ensuring only the most needy were on the government dole. But most now agree the rule had the effect of tearing dads from homes, decimating families, and leaving the social structure to rot.

Whoops.

To this day, rules and regulations — often created with the intent of protecting tenants — make it difficult to create reasonable change at housing authorities.

For instance, Montoya says he wishes he could designate more buildings as senior-only. He can request that HUD make that change. But Rodriquez explains that the ultimate decision of how to classify a building is left to federal data-crunchers who look at demographics and community needs. It's unlikely, she says, that HUD would agree to turn all Springs buildings to senior-only, due to the high need for housing for the disabled.

Nor is segregating all the buildings — either for seniors *or* people with disabilities — an easy option. Though both are technically allowed these days, Rodriquez says the complicated Fair Housing Act must be considered before housing is divided due to discrimination concerns.

(It may seem like the Authority could have avoided this headache by setting up senior-only housing to begin with. But the newest of the Authority's apartments was built in the 1980s, and HUD only recently allowed authorities to create separate housing for seniors and the disabled.)

Despite the challenges, Montoya says he's working toward a solution.

"What we are doing now, is exploring the possibility of setting aside 50-75 vouchers [for private buildings] exclusively for the disabled," Montoya states in an e-mail to the *Indy*. "By so doing, we continue to provide housing opportunities directed toward the disabled, offsetting any losses by, then, declaring the senior buildings for seniors. I think we have a better opportunity to gain acceptance and support from all involved if we can offer an alternative."

Until then, the best people like Joe can hope for is that a well-deserved eviction notice will soon be posted on a offending neighbor's door. But he says he's growing impatient. When he wakes at night to the sound of a heavy shoe smashing into his metal door over and over again, he fantasizes about conducting his own kind of eviction.

"I'm tempted just to open the door," he says, "... and blow 'em clear across to Evergreen Cemetery."

— stanley@csindy.com

Outsiders and infighters

By J. Adrian Stanley

In early January, a 69-year-old resident of the Katharine Bates Apartments — a "senior" building on West Uintah Street — told the *Independent* he heard loud booms outside his window in the early morning hours.

When he walked out to his car hours later, he found the parking lot littered with shells from a .45.

"How do you know someone's not going to be driving around, putting a bullet through your window?" he asked, outraged.

The incident illustrates a point that officials with the Housing Authority of the City of Colorado Springs are eager to make: Some of the problems at their senior buildings are beyond their control. While records show that residents at five of the Authority's nine senior buildings call the police a lot, some of those calls are related to incidents happening outside.

Pam Simon, the Authority's asset management supervisor, says she always follows up on police calls to Authority buildings.

"Sometimes we found out that some of these assaults, it could have been out in the parking lot," she says. "It could have been two [people] that were not related to the building at all that were walking by."

Simon notes that private apartment complexes often deal with similar problems. (Indeed, a check of four private complexes located within the vicinity of an Authority senior building revealed one with an impressive rap sheet.)

Locations that are near a park, a popular business, or that have secluded parking lots tend to have the most problems with outsiders, Simon says. The Housing Authority has tried to combat the problems by adding rotating part-time security guards, putting up exterior lighting, adding security cameras, and bringing in police officers to speak to residents about safety.

Terri Shaver and Barbara Turk, who each manage half the Authority's senior buildings, say another problem comes when a simple dispute between tenants escalates. With so many nonworking residents spending the vast majority of their time together, problems occur.

Turk has an elderly resident who has called the police on her upstairs neighbor, a disabled man, because he makes a lot of noise moving around and has a tendency to drop things. Shaver had to intervene when furious residents of one of her buildings began calling police, upset that a neighbor had a large dog in the building — a service animal.

Gene Montoya, the Housing Authority's executive director, says misunderstandings are also an issue. He remembers a call from a scared senior who told him a neighbor was up at 2 a.m., talking to the Coke machine. Mental illness can often be scary to seniors, he says.

In cases of irritation or misunderstanding, managers send letters, make calls, and eventually, if problems persist, bring tenants in for face-to-face meetings. If two residents continue to bicker, they often schedule a mediation at the 4th Judicial District Attorney's Office's Neighborhood Justice Center. Turk and Shaver say interventions promote understanding and are often successful.

"It's the dynamics between the lifestyles," Turk says. "What is irritating to a senior who is more sedentary and quiet and maybe only has family over every once in a while, [is different than what is irritating to] the younger [person] who has more friends because of their lifestyle. Just the door opening and closing because [a young person] has visitors, that may irritate a senior. And [the senior is] thinking, 'Maybe that person's dealing drugs because they have so many visitors.' Well, not necessarily."

— stanley@csindy.com

PROSPECT LAKE APARTMENTS
Bradley Flora

At Prospect Lake Apartments (left and right), tenants often argue. Meanwhile, Acacia Park Apartments (center) has problems with area homeless people.

7 DAYS TO LIVE

23 Wednesday

lecture

Given that we ran our 3,000-word interview with futurist inventor **Ray Kurzweil** just last week, suffice it to say that he's the author of 2005's *The Singularity Is Near*, the controversial bestseller in which he makes the real-life case for a post-human world wherein the line between man and machine is irrevocably eradicated. Oh yeah, and also that he invented a reading machine for the blind (Stevie Wonder bought the very first one way back in the '70s), launched a line of state-of-the-art synthesizers that's been going for three decades, and has just been hired by Google to teach its computers how to think. He'll try to do the same for you during his free Distinguished Speaker Series lecture at 7 tonight in **CSU-Pueblo's Hoag Recital Hall** (2200 Bonforte Blvd., Pueblo, colostate-pueblo.edu). — *BF*

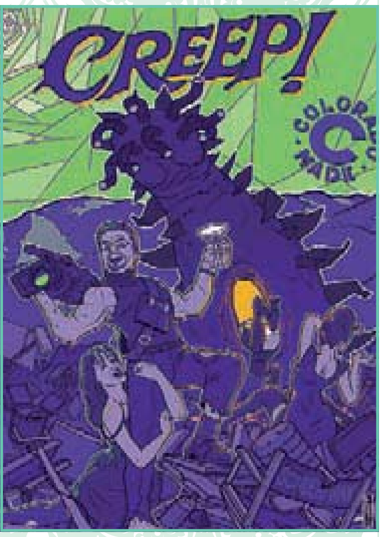
24 Thursday

music

I don't remember how I ran across **Sea Wolf** during my sophomore year of college, but I do remember running down into the common room of my dorm, completely ignoring the fact that my bubblegum-pink pajamas were on display for half the campus to see, and forcibly dragging my audiophile buddies Tim and Brian upstairs: "You have *got* to hear this song!" Frontman Alex Church's production values have gotten more baroque, as have his lyrics, since the days of "You're a Wolf," but that's all the more reason not to miss this deliciously spooky cousin to Band of Horses and Fleet Foxes, playing an all-ages show at the **Black Sheep** (2106 E. Platte Ave., blacksheeprocks.com, $10-$12) at 8 tonight. — *CAS*

25 Friday

art



Apparently "hootenanny" used to be a synonym for a "thingumabob," but most folks now likely think of a folk music throw-down when they hear the word. Which is entirely *not* what tonight's **Hootenanny for the Arts** event is from 6:30 to 9 at **The Mansion** (20 N. Tejon St., coppercolo.org). Instead, it's a fundraiser for COPPeR's Peak Arts Fund and post-production of the local film *Creep!* Area visual artists, dancers and musicians will perform and $25 tickets ($30 at the door) include appetizers and three drink tickets. The finest Rat Pack-era costume wins a trip to Las Vegas, plus a new *Creep!* trailer will screen, and graphic mastermind Langdon Foss will provide 100 limited-edition *Creep!* tribute posters ($20). Guess all that newly defines a hootenanny. — *MS*

How fragile we are

Heather Harpham revisits caring for her ill child, via dance and storytelling

Heather Harpham took a four-year hiatus from the stage to care for her daughter, who was born with a severe form of anemia that left her dependent on blood transfusions to survive. When she eventually returned to performance after her daughter's recovery (she's 11 now), Harpham tried to create a generalized piece about the body.

It didn't work.

"I just didn't feel that my heart was in it," Harpham says. Instead, she gave herself permission to work with her experiences of being with her daughter inside a medical world, to see what emerged.

Using her own body for inspiration and imagination is central to Harpham's theatrical approach, and is one of the reasons Jim Jackson, co-founder and executive director of the Millibo Art Theatre, was interested in bringing her final product, *Happiness*, to the MAT. "When we saw Heather's piece," he says, "we loved the combination of dance and story."

The New York City-based 45-year-old, who also teaches at Manhattanville College, employs a method called "action theatre" when creating her work. "The text is generated in the moment by going into character or by going into a particular expressive mode and then improvising," Harpham says. So while the shows aren't necessarily improvised, the process of creating them is.

Happiness is personal but also addresses the universal experiences of loss and grief. With this in mind, she explains, "I prefer for the figure of the daughter in the play to be unnamed in order to be more easily accepted as a symbolic character."

Harpham has been performing *Happiness* for about four years, at venues as far away as Nepal. The piece was selected for the One Woman Standing Festival and the All for One Theatre Festival in New York City, the latter of which describes her show this way: "*Happiness* considers the body as social object, medical subject, commercial commodity, and spiritual artifact."

— ***Darcie Mankell***

CAPSULE

Happiness

Jan. 24-27; Thursday, 7 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 8 p.m.; Sunday, 2 p.m.

Millibo Art Theatre, 1367 Pecan St.

Tickets: $15-$20; for more information, visit themat.org or call 465-6321.

CAPSULE

Master Actors Workshop with Heather Harpham

Saturday, Jan. 26, 1-3 p.m.

Cost: $30; contact the MAT for more.

4Play

Other options to get you excited about your week.

Backup plan
Cajun and Carnival opening reception, 5 p.m., Friday, Jan. 25 at Cottonwood Center for the Arts

Before you know it
Cornerstone Arts Week, Feb. 4-8, at Colorado College

Potato pick
Screen Actors Guild Awards, 6 p.m., Sunday, Jan. 27 on TNT

Have you heard?
"This is your website now and I am your audience."
asdfjklsemicolon.com

26 Saturday

sci-fi

Named by combining our city's airport designation with a math joke, **COSine** is rocking its 10th year in existence, with the **Crowne Plaza** (2886 S. Circle Drive, firstfridayfandom.org) hosting the science-fiction convention. It's a good time, too. Author S.M. Stirling, who has written novels in the alternate-history and time-travel genres, is the guest of honor, but attendees will also find lectures, like "Science Fiction TV Shows — Failures and Successes," various role-playing games, and readings from folks with awesome names like David Boop, Sourdough Jackson and Mem Morman. Friday-through-Sunday tickets are $10 to $45, with single-day admission from $15 to $30. *— **BC***

27 Sunday

music

The character lineup for today's 2:30 p.m. **Colorado Springs Philharmonic performance** at the **Pikes Peak Center** (190 S. Cascade Ave., pikespeakcenter.com) includes fairy kings and Norse valkyries. The settings include Paris, Hades and a ballet orgy. You had no idea classical music could be so cheeky, did you? Tickets cost $19-$59 for this Masterworks show (also running Saturday, Jan. 26, at 8), helmed by Josep Caballé-Domenech, tunes courtesy Wagner, Weber, Mozart and Beethoven. *— **KA***

28 Monday

music

When you talk about the **Toasters**, you talk numbers. Like, that the ska band has performed 5,000-plus live shows. That it's been around for 33 years, and its number of past members is even greater. But that doesn't mean the Third Wave outfit has no soul. When the *Indy* interviewed group founder Robert "Bucket" Hingley back in 2007, he embraced the band's ever-changing lineup. As he put it: "Once a Toaster, always a Toaster." So there you have it. Take your $12 and head to the **Black Sheep** (2106 E. Platte Ave., blacksheeprocks.com) for the band's all-ages, 7 p.m. show, opened by Mrs. Skannotto and the Stem Beach Soul Revival. *— **EA***

29 Tuesday

music

If you missed this month's *Forbes* cover story, "30 Under 30: Meet the Disrupters Reinventing the World," we'll let you in on a little secret about the music-category honorees: Nearly all of them are rich! OK, not shocking, but it's still a nice surprise to find **Delta Rae** in the elite company of Lady Gaga, Katy Perry and numerous music industry moguls. Personally signed to Sire Records last February by Seymour Stein (who discovered Madonna and the Ramones), the severely talented North Carolina group has yet to enjoy overnight success. But while it does have its Fleetwood Mac ear-candy moments, what matters most are the passionate vocals of Brittany Hölljes and Elizabeth Hopkins — think Grace Potter times two — along with the often-stunning mix of swampy Americana and righteous gospel on tracks like "Bottom of the River." Catch them tonight at 8 as they disrupt the **Bluebird Theater** (3317 E. Colfax Ave., Denver, bluebirdtheater.net) for $15/adv, $20/door. *— **BF***

Contributors: Edie Adelstein, Kirsten Akens, Bryce Crawford, Bill Forman and Matthew Schniper.

The gaping lotus experience

A foam 'Frankenstein' makes like a meditative monolith at GOCA 1420

Who wants a colossal best friend who also happens to be a robot? Michael Salter does.

Associate professor of digital arts and new media at the University of Oregon, Salter proves this, literally, in his latest project coming to the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs' Gallery of Contemporary Art. Gallery director Daisy McConnell refers to *styrobot: something comes from nothing* as a "project" because of its multifaceted approach. It's an: installation, sculpture, found-art piece, post-humanist revolutionary statement on consumerism and wastefulness, pop art item ... the list goes on.

That's a lot of weight for something made from polystyrene packing foam and Gorilla Glue, but this isn't just any mammoth robot: It's also one meditating in the lotus position. Salter says he had the idea because of his love of science fiction and the perfectly symmetrical square gallery.

"I like the irony of a Frankenstein creature that is misunderstood and protective," he says.

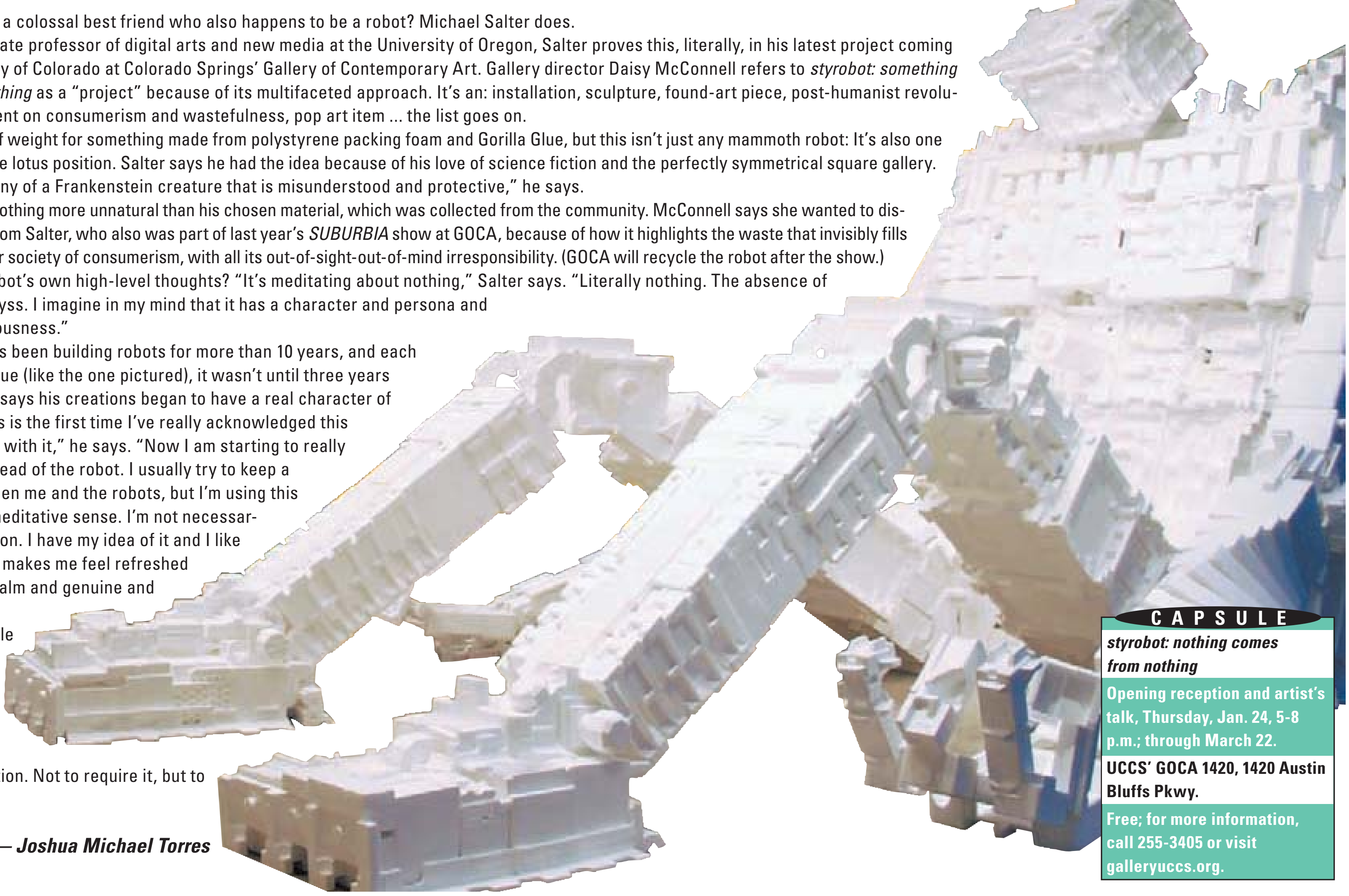
And there's nothing more unnatural than his chosen material, which was collected from the community. McConnell says she wanted to display this work from Salter, who also was part of last year's *SUBURBIA* show at GOCA, because of how it highlights the waste that invisibly fills the cracks in our society of consumerism, with all its out-of-sight-out-of-mind irresponsibility. (GOCA will recycle the robot after the show.)

As for the robot's own high-level thoughts? "It's meditating about nothing," Salter says. "Literally nothing. The absence of thought, the abyss. I imagine in my mind that it has a character and persona and its own consciousness."

Although he's been building robots for more than 10 years, and each creation is unique (like the one pictured), it wasn't until three years ago that Salter says his creations began to have a real character of their own. "This is the first time I've really acknowledged this and really gone with it," he says. "Now I am starting to really get inside the head of the robot. I usually try to keep a distance between me and the robots, but I'm using this intensely in a meditative sense. I'm not necessarily pro-meditation. I have my idea of it and I like the idea of it. It makes me feel refreshed and open and calm and genuine and authentic.

"I want people to know that a robot is meditating and that it can evolve and choose meditation. Not to require it, but to choose it."

— Joshua Michael Torres



CAPSULE

styrobot: nothing comes from nothing

Opening reception and artist's talk, Thursday, Jan. 24, 5-8 p.m.; through March 22.

UCCS' GOCA 1420, 1420 Austin Bluffs Pkwy.

Free; for more information, call 255-3405 or visit galleryuccs.org.

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Appetite

Secret sauce

Upstairs at La Baguette teems with charm and spirits

By Matthew Schniper

The most important thing to know about Upstairs at La Baguette is how to find it — through an unmarked wooden door to the left of La Baguette French Bakery's entrance. In the same manner that 15C earned appeal through its back-alley speakeasy feel, ULB's charm partly comes from this quasi-clandestine vibe.

Brienne Boortz

Good wine, good cheese, good bread — great spread.

The rest of the bar's considerable character stems from its higher-end yet affordable drink list and warm décor, arranged around a fireplace and five-seat bar. Spirits shelves are backlit by color-changing lights that turn the bricks of the former storage area (and bordello, historically) cool and warm neon hues.

You could come here just for drinks, especially since they're served with a complimentary La Baguette bread basket (texturally pleasing, gluten-free "garfava" flour bread is also available) and olive oil seasoned to a wine-friendly zestiness with red pepper flakes, garlic and an herb blend. But three elegantly simple, free spreads — one an Italian-style white bean and rosemary mash, the other two Kalamata olive tapenades — selected to match the European-inspired menu by Polish-born owner Toni Rog will tease you into thinking food.

For appetizers, which in sum could make a family-style meal, choose between a six-cheese plate ($12), cantaloupe and prosciutto plate ($9) and escargot ($10). The latter's butter could use more garlic and herbs, per classic French style, but the meat-melon-mix wins as a virtually bulletproof catering go-to. The predominantly French cheese spread, including Bleu d'Auvergne and Délice de Bourgogne, works well with the nice breads.

If visiting with a minimum of four, a full kilo (2.2 pounds) of enjoyable, traditional Swiss fondue ($36) easily feeds all, served with apples and additional bread. ULB binds French Emmentaler and Gruyère cheeses with Australian Sauvignon Blanc and Kirsch (white brandy) for their respective fruit undertones. In our case, Fontina was subbed for our Gruyère because the latter was out of stock. Also, our waitress confessed, a manager had to be called in to locate and execute the recipe — one of a few indications that servers could use more training.

Desserts ($1.50 to $4.55) are uniformly excellent, especially with an espresso drink. The chocolate mousse, crème caramel and flourless chocolate cake again cater with gusto to the gluten-free crowd. For the unrestricted, the potent lemon tart and creamy, fruity, multi-layer Schausse cake are highlights.

As for the vino, Rog says most of his list can't be found elsewhere in town; he aimed for exclusives over a two-year period of collecting prior to opening. Many vintages priced in the $6-to-$9 range date back to 2006 and 2007, showing more maturity and offering a decent deal.

The quality liquor menu also tops out at $9. Of particular interest is an absinthe selection, which gets a fancy pour treatment: You set a hookah-sized absinthe fountain to slowly drip ice-water over a sugar cube on a slotted absinthe spoon, into an ornate glass, until the ideal green color and sweet licorice-flavor is achieved. Beers include a couple lesser-seen Irish brews and Poland's pale, malty Okocim label.

Rog, who bought this La Baguette six years ago, can be seen drinking wine with customer-friends in between touching tables with a big smile. The staff, too, appears relaxed, dawdling behind the bar, even openly knitting (and at times missing refill/reorder opportunities).

To their credit, the casual behavior does set a slow-food-esque tone for a visit. Perhaps when ULB's semi-secret existence grows less so, that'll change. God forbid, it may even have a sign or phone number someday.

— matthew@csindy.com

CAPSULE

Upstairs at La Baguette
2417 W. Colorado Ave., labaguette-co.com
7 p.m. to late, Thursdays through Saturdays

SIDE Dish

Culinary crumbs & gastronomic gossip

Owner/opera-ator

Carmen, a Tapas Grill & Bar (609 W. Midland Ave., Woodland Park, carmen-tapas.com), which opened in November, actually has nothing to do with the famous opera; it's named for co-owner Carmen Aurand, whose Honduran husband Carlos Macis is the co-owner and chef. Macis operated the Martini Hut for four years before moving that business to Shining Mountain Golf Club, where he spent four more years as chef.

Here, the couple has designed international lunch, dinner and tapas menus, each available during all hours (Monday through Saturday, 11 a.m to 10 p.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.). Lunch relies on sandwiches, salads and soups, while dinner features entrées like ribeye steaks and Italian sausages with sides like *arroz y papas* (rice and potatoes). The tapas list hits everything from *albondigas* (meatballs) and rum-soaked, bacon-wrapped dates to house-made empanadas.

Heath bar

"Surprisingly good gluten-free" is the tagline of **Miss Ami's Kitchen** (missamiskitchen.com), which recently opened operations out of You and I Caterers at 6429 Omaha Blvd. The business offers pickup, local delivery and shipping services, but baker Ami Heath's cheesecakes are also sold at YoYogurt locations and Salsa Brava's Briargate spot.

Heath, a former waitress turned marketing rep and longtime home cook, says she hopes to move into her own retail space soon while expanding her sweets into more eateries, with a long-term goal of opening her own restaurant. She was turned on to gluten-free foods after researching recipes to cook for a former colleague with celiac disease.

"It became my passion," she says. "I converted my kitchen and over a two-year period became an advocate."

Though fudge, cookies and cupcakes are also available, Heath's cheesecakes are her star item, with flavors like pumpkin and cherry chip on crust varieties such as oatmeal cinnamon almond.

Solar buzz

The former antique market space at 103 S. Wahsatch Ave., opens this week as **Downtown Fine Spirits & Wine** (475-8114). Building and business owner Gregor Huesgen says he'll carry a large selection of quality liquor, vino and craft beers.

Huesgen says that much of the merchandise will be displayed on "century-old antiques from mostly Asia," many of them procured on his own travels. "There's not a shop like this in town," he says.

That comment also speaks to a 30-kilowatt solar system providing most of the space's energy needs. Huesgen owns another 90 kilowatts on three other buildings, making him one of the area's largest solar energy generators. (Disclosure: Huesgen is consulting with the *Indy* on expanding its solar capacity in the near future.)

— Matthew Schniper

APPETIZERS

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AMERICAN

Benny's 517 W. Colorado Ave. 634-9309	**Since 1953! Come on in** and check out our vintage sports photos & memorabilia! Happy Hour 4-7 pm Mon - Fri. Try our Fresh, hand stuffed jalapeno poppers or beer battered pickle spears. Try our Whiskey Chicken Sandwich or Benny's Bourbon burger. Fresh soup daily!
C'MON INN 711 Dale Street in Fountain 382-7562 cmoninnfountain.com	**Open Daily 11am-2am. C'mon in** & then come on back! Fountain's finest neighborhood tavern features burgers, pizza, wings, pool tables, darts & much more! Karaoke on Fridays & Saturdays. Free parking & wi-fi. Happy Hour 4-7pm daily. Go Broncos!
Hatchcover Bar & Grill 252 E. Cheyenne Mtn. Blvd. (@ 115) 719-576-5223	**If bars are hairstyles, We're the mullet!** Large groups for business lunch by day, long flowing party by night! Menu ranges from fantastic nachos to juicy ribeyes! Specials day & night! 7 days a week, Open Late! Around since the 70's, our style just won't die!
The Mason Jar 2925 W Colorado Ave at 30th St 632-4820 MasonJarColorado.com	**American Comfort Food** served in a casual Colorado lodge atmosphere. Famous Chicken Fried Steak and real mashed potatoes, Slow Roasted Prime Rib, plus soups, salads, great Burgers, and Homemade Cobblers. Full service bar. A Family Tradition for thirty years. Serving lunch and dinner from 11am daily.
The Rabbit Hole 101 N.Tejon on Kiowa St. 719-203-5072	**Voted Best New Restaurant 2011** by ***Indy*** Readers! We offer Colorado products and vegetarian items, 25 different wines, 25 different beers. Open 7 nights a week with a full menu from 4 pm to 1:30 am. Over 25 items.
South Side Johnny's 528 S. Tejon St. 444-8487	**Daily 11am-2am. "It's better to** eat at a bar, than drink at a restaurant." South downtown bar and grill serving burgers, steaks, pastas, salads, and classic home-style entrees like meat loaf & open faced carvings. Big screen TV, free parking, Happy Hour Daily 4-7.
Super Nova 111E. Boulder 719-418-3484	**Now open in downtown Colorado Springs!** 1980's video games. Daily lunch specials. Beer, wine and cocktails. Innovative menu. supernovabarcode.com
Thunder & Buttons II 2415 W. Colorado Ave. Colorado Springs 447-9888	**Voted BEST Westside Bar & BEST Karaoke.** Open 11am-2am daily. Where the locals eat & drink Craft Beer! Tuesday nights-Geeks Who Drink. Karaoke Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights! Sunday Happy Hour ALL DAY!
Tony's 311 N. Tejon St. 228-6566 tonysdowntownbar.com	**Daily 11am- 2am. Aahhh Jeeze-** Who doesn't love a Midwestern Tavern? Pabst, Fried Cheese Curds, Old Style, Butter Burgers, Hamm's, Rueben's, Leinenkugle's, Beer Battered Walleye & more. Voted "Best Neighborhood Bar" 13 yrs., "Bang for your Buck" 8 yrs., & "Hang-out" 3 yrs. & "College Bar" 2 yrs. HH 4-7! Go Pack Go! Open for breakfast starting in February!

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CATERING

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EASTERN

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山寿し	**Jun** 1760 Dublin Blvd., 531-9368 3276 Centennial Blvd., 227-8690	**Hours: Mon-Fri 11-2, Sat noon-3.** Sun-Thurs 5-9pm, Fri-Sat 5-10. Happy hour, daily 5-6, Fri-Sat 9-10. Full Japanese menu including teriyaki, tempura and a thorough sushi selection. Jun serves both foreign and domestic beers, as well as sake and wine.
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Dine&Dash Quick takes on food and drink

Trinity Brewing Company

1466 W. Garden of the Gods Road, #184, 634-0029, trinitybrew.com

While observing Trinity's Jason Yester and New Belgium Brewing's Peter Bouckaert collaborating on a rare Berliner Weisse recently at Trinity, naturally I grew thirsty and hungry. (In that order.)

Taking my waitress' recommendation, I ordered the **Son of a Buffalo macaroni and cheese** ($9). Taking the *menu*'s recommendation, I paired it with a **Flo IPA** (this one cask-aged; $6/pint). And finally, in a fit of carb fanaticism, I also opted for those spicy cheese-sauce-lacquered noodles to be served in a bread bowl. And so they erupted volcano-like from three sides, flecked with diced tomatoes, large red onion strands and organic, buffalo-sauce-drenched Colorado chicken slices, all garnished with a few bleu cheese squares. The dairy tempered the heat to create a pleasing balance, interrupted by the onion and bleu cheese's sharpness — creating a lot of flavor interplay for the IPA's high hops to accentuate. — ***Matthew Schniper***

Dickey's Barbecue Pit

1466 W. Garden of the Gods Road, #160, dickeys.com

We ate a lot of food at Trinity's new neighbor, Dickey's — the first Springs location for the Texas chain — so let's get to it. First, we caught the daily special, so our **three-rib plate** came in at $7.99 with a side of good baked beans and great fried okra rounds. Actually, all the sides, including a Velveeta-like mac-and-cheese, were fantastic.

It's the meat that keeps this spot from being a must-try, though. The spicy cheddar sausage was a little mushy, though robust and hot, while our ribs were tender enough, but cooked to a doneness that left them more like teriyaki beef. Both the **pulled pork** ($10.50 on a two-meat plate) and the **chopped brisket** ($5.50 as a sandwich) were beautiful, but too dry and unseasoned. They're fixed with sauce, but I'd say that means they're broken. Speaking of, the regular sauce is sweet and synthetic-tasting; the sweet is the same, but that much more. — ***Bryce Crawford***

Odell Brewing Company

800 E. Lincoln Ave., Fort Collins, 970/498-9070, odellbrewing.com

Considering my love of Myrcenary Double IPA and Odell's Firkin Rendezvous-crushing Coconut Milk Cutthroat Porter (recently re-appearing at Brewer's Republic), I'm not surprised by how much I enjoy **Lugene Chocolate Milk Stout** (around $10/four-pack). Brewed January through March at 8.5 percent ABV, it's truly chocolatey, tossing 300 pounds of Ghanian chocolate bars (some 64-percent cacao, some 40-percent) into the brew kettle per 100 barrels, according to head brewer Bill Beymer.

Added lactose, which yeasts cannot convert to alcohol, move through as sugars, adding a silkier body and additional sweetness. Chocolate malts actually aren't used, though another grain bill of dark-roasted malts are. It's not quite the "cold glass of chocolate milk" Odell's website promotes, but it hits strong chocolate-syrup notes, fading to a nice milk-stout finish and avoiding typical coffee tones almost entirely. — ***Matthew Schniper***

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Film

The big crapple

Broken City (R)

By MaryAnn Johanson

I wouldn't be at all surprised to learn that the script for *Broken City*, by otherwise uncredited newbie Brian Tucker, had been sitting around, unproduced, for 20 years. It's that musty in too many incomprehensible ways.

Not the noirish vibe it opens with: Gritty urban crime drama never goes out of style. But the things it chooses to be gritty and cynical about are odd and outdated, as if the sorts of corruption on display here were unexpected or shocking. Meanwhile, it lets hints of potential scandals that would have been far more modern and could have been much more deliciously salacious, or even genuinely unsettling and shocking, slide past without even noticing them.

New York City mayor Nicholas Hostetler (Russell Crowe) is expecting easy re-election in a few days when he brings in disgraced cop turned cheap PI Billy Taggart (Mark Wahlberg) to do his usual thing: get photos of the city's First Lady (Catherine Zeta-Jones) with the lover Hostetler knows she's sneaking out to see. Of course there's much more going on than meets our eye, or Taggart's ... but what it is isn't all that interesting.

And how it plays out devolves into a muddled mess of confused motives, such as the scene in which Taggart finds himself in a situation with the police commissioner (Jeffrey Wright). Taggart previously couldn't stand to be in the same room with the guy; now he appears to be operating in tandem with him, as if the two men were partners of long-standing who shared an almost telepathic link. It made me honestly wonder if entire important scenes had been deleted.

Even Mark Wahlberg, usually great, flounders in this City.

Even the best of what's on offer suffers from a frustrating underpoweredness. Alona Tal (from TV's *Supernatural*) as Taggart's investigative sidekick might steal the movie with her smarts and her spunk, if only she were allowed more room to breathe. The generally underappreciated Barry Pepper as the political challenger for Hostetler's office is always a joy, except he's woefully misused here, stuffed into a thankless and ultimately pointless role.

But the most puzzling mustiness comes from the complete lack of any appreciation on the part of the screenwriter or director Allen Hughes (who apparently went uncredited on *The Book of Eli*, a smart move) that this story is happening in 20-teens New York. Crowe's apparent attempts to channel Rudy Giuliani might have been OK if the city here didn't also feel very '90s-ish, and very pre-9/11.

I don't recognize this New York except as a distant memory, yet this isn't a historical piece. And I barely recognize two actors — Crowe and Wahlberg — who are usually a lot more engaging than what they give us here. I'd love to see them together again in a movie that deserves them.

— scene@csindy.com

RatingsWrapUp

	Indy	Hollywood Reporter	Rotten Tomatoes	Variety
Broken City (R)	Lame	Lame	Lame	Lame
Django Unchained (R)	Brilliant	Enjoy	Brilliant	Enjoy
Gangster Squad (R)	Lame	Lame	Wait for DVD	Lame
Les Miserables (PG-13)	Wait for DVD	Wait for DVD	Enjoy	Enjoy
Zero Dark Thirty (R)	Brilliant	Brilliant	Brilliant	Brilliant

KEY: Brilliant · Enjoy · Wait for DVD · Lame

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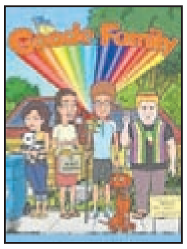
CineFiles



The Goode Family: The Complete Series (NR)

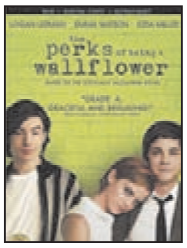
Shout! Factory

A couple of years ago, *Beavis and Butthead* and *King of the Hill* creator Mike Judge had a short-lived animated series on ABC titled *The Goode Family*. If you know anything about Judge's career, the story here is par for the course — once again, an inspired work of his is bungled to cult obscurity thanks to studio bigwigs who have no idea how to handle or promote what he does. The non-existence of *The Goode Family* is even more infuriating than usual, as the premise was so pre-*Portlandia* that it would probably be a huge hit on, say, Adult Swim today. The series follows the far-left foibles of the Goodes, an ultra-liberal, excessively green, phenomenally activistic family that always seems to cause more trouble when they're trying to be helpful. It'll go down as another Mike Judge lost classic, because Goode is great. — ***Louis Fowler***

Lightning Bug (NR) (Blu-ray)

Image Entertainment

An autobiographical slice from the life of horror director and award-winning special effects makeup designer Robert Hall, 2004's moody melodrama *Lightning Bug* is a step above many current coming-of-age dramas in the way that isolation, intolerance and violence are portrayed: not with a clichéd, Spielbergian, pseudo-innocence style, but in a gritty light that makes it ring true. Green Graves is a lonely guy who creates monsters and special effects in an effort to have a portfolio to show when he makes his move from redneck Alabama to Hollywood. This dream is complicated when a love interest with some demons of her own enters his life, showing him that the worst monsters are often right in front of us. A memorably dark and wistful account that, while probably truth-stretched quite a bit, is no less a totally moving experience. — ***Louis Fowler***



The Perks of Being a Wallflower (PG-13)

Lionsgate (via digital; on disc Feb. 12)

When debut novelist Stephen Chbosky released *Perks* in 1999, the epistolary heartbreaker presaged the next decade of nostalgia-tinged pixiedom. It was hailed as an immediate classic for its evocation of the near-instant along with pop-culture relics, so fast-tracked to immortality it would give Boomers whiplash. But it took nearly 14 years to get a movie adaptation to the screen. It's been aped so many times that it seems, at first, hopelessly outdated. Logan Lerman is Charlie, a bookworm somewhere between Holden Caulfield and Michael Cera on the angst-ism spectrum. As standard high school caricatures give way to more studied portraits of by-now equally standard freaks and geeks, including Emma Watson as dream girl Sam, Charlie zeroes in on the source of his recurring blackouts. This is where having the author on board as auteur pays off: The deeper the movie delves, the more assured it feels. — ***Justin Strout***

AudioFile

Just plain folk

Country artist Suzy Bogguss is no wayfaring stranger to the songs of yore

By Kirsten Akens

"Shenandoah" might be Suzy Bogguss' favorite folk song, and "Red River Valley" the one that got her thinking a few years back about a new album concept, but when it comes down to it, the Nashville-based country music artist says, "Froggy Went a Courtin'" is the one that prompts the most fun for her and her audience members.

Bogguss: Sharing historical 'hootenannies.'

"I get great stories from people who tell me that their grandma used to sing it, or their Uncle Harley used to sing it to them. ... One lady I remember, her story really struck me, she said that her grandma was kinda hard-edged, really didn't smile much. ... But this song, when she would sing this song to them, she would just light up like a Christmas tree. ... It's like, you couldn't even believe it was the same person. That's how that song is. It just, it's infectious."

Infectious — but only if you know the song and other old folk tunes, and Bogguss realized while out on tour with Garrison Keillor in 2008 that many people didn't. At least those in the audience under the age of 30.

"Not only did they not know the words, the song was completely new to them," she says. "That sort of saddened me because I grew up with probably three or four days a week, we had music class. It was almost like a second recess for me."

So Bogguss' 2011 album, *American Folk Songbook*, a combo CD and 96-page illustrated book, was born.

And now, when Bogguss tours with her two bandmates, Pat Bergeson on guitar and harmonica and Charlie Chadwick on upright bass, the mostly sing-along shows based on the album turn into, in her words, "hootenannies."

"It's a mixture of, you know, the joy of sharing something with somebody else in the same room. But it's also, they're slightly embarrassed. There's a vulnerability about it, but there's also this camaraderie that's almost like a pub attitude — hey, let's have a good time together!"

Part of that might be that the 56-year-old displays her own vulnerability on stage — a full-circle change, Bogguss says, from her highly produced work of the late '80s and early '90s. Though it was a time that earned her places on the music charts, a Grammy nomination and an Academy of Country Music Top New Female Vocalist award for hits like "Cross My Broken Heart" and "Hey Cinderella," she's got a different focus now.

"I've come way back around to where I just feel like the spaces and the groove of the song are at least as equally important as how many notes are planned. So now, I feel like, even as a singer, I just try really hard to be in the moment. And be as fresh as I can be. And not try to sing perfect, but to just try to get across the story in the song, instead of here's me showing you all of my Mariah Carey licks," she says, laughing. "'Cause I don't do Mariah Carey licks. She does, you know?"

Bogguss is also willing to stray from what's comfortable for her at her shows.

"If people request something from my past catalog and I can pull it off without butchering it and ruining it for them for the rest of their lives, I'll do it."

— ***kakens@csindy.com***

CAPSULE

Suzy Bogguss

Saturday, Jan. 26, 7:30 p.m.

Damon Runyon Theatre,
611 N. Main St., Pueblo

Tickets: $23/adv, $27/door; runyontheater.org, 719/564-0579.

SoundAdvice

PERE UBU
LADY FROM SHANGHAI

FADE YO LA TENGO

Pere Ubu

Lady From Shanghai

Fire Records

File next to: Clinic, Black Dice, old-school Pere Ubu

Pere Ubu has spent the past few years trying to strike an effective balance between two impulses: the analog-synth oddness of seminal 1970s albums like *The Modern Dance*, and the subsequent infusion of so many mainstream riffs that made the Cleveland band a lot less interesting. If frontman David Thomas aimed too much toward normality in the 1990s, more recent theatre/musical works like *Long Live Père Ubu!* hint at the Dadaists of yore. Injecting a primitive electronic beat into the classic Pere Ubu sound, new tracks like "Thanks" and "Free White" are noisy, rhythmic pulses that call to mind the current wave of weird dance music led by bands like Black Dice and Gang Gang Dance. By the time we get to the album's climax in "Lampshade Man" and "414 Seconds," the listener realizes that David Thomas and his band are as deliciously inaccessible as ever. — ***Loring Wirbel***

Yo La Tengo

Fade

Matador Records

File next to: Velvet Underground, Spiritualized

This 13th studio album in Yo La Tengo's 28-year career doesn't really break any new ground, but it sure is good. *Fade* is a warm, welcoming, often gorgeous record, with elements of everything from Motown to orchestral pop folded into the band's familiar Velvet Underground-inspired folk-pop frameworks. That VU jangle and drone are most prominent on "Paddle Forward," while "Stupid Things" pulsates with an electronic Krautrock buzz. The driving opener "Ohm" is as intense as *Fade* gets, while the closing "Before We Run" adds horns and strings to the mix, courtesy producer John McEntire from the post-rock band Tortoise. The trio's characteristic blend of optimism and resignation resonates throughout an album that occasionally teeters on the edge of becoming background music. But, even at its most mellow, *Fade* never does. — ***L. Kent Wolgamott***

He's My Brother She's My Sister

Nobody Dances in This Town

Park the Van Records

File next to: Caravan of Thieves, Delta Spirit

Don't let the fact that Lauren Brown tap-dances while playing drums lead you to believe He's My Brother She's My Sister isn't serious about its music. Led by siblings Rob and Rachel Kolar, this album would warrant your attention even if you didn't know about the tap dancing part. Songs like "Let It Live Free," "Tales That I Tell" and "Let's Go" offer up a ragtag blend of old-time rock and country that combines serious songcraft with serious fun. "Slow It Down" and "Electric Love" sound like Metric trading in its synthesizers for twangy guitars, while the soulful stomp and big hooks of "The Same Old Ground" recall Edward Sharpe & the Magnetic Zeros. And yes, "Clackin' Heels" proves tap dancing can indeed be a legitimate form of percussion. Factor in darker tracks like "Choir of the Dead" and "Touch the Lightning," and it's clear this is a band with more than novelty going for it. — ***Alan Sculley***

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REVERB

BY BILL FORMAN

Hard to believe it was just six weeks ago that **Blank Tape Records** celebrated **Grant Sabin**'s *Anthromusicology* album with a packed-to-the-rafters show at **Stargazers**. During that time, we've survived one Mayan apocalypse, abandoned countless New Year's resolutions and, earlier this week, suffered through Blue Monday, famously touted as "the most depressing day of the year."

Kevin Ihle

Sugar Sounds band members (left to right) Alex Koshak, Marc Benning, Inaiah Lujan, Mike Clark, Grant Sabin and Ian Bourgal.

But while the rest of us were battling various aspects of the winter doldrums, the Blank Tape crew has kept busy prepping another CD release show. This Friday at the **Loft**, **Haunted Windchimes** multi-instrumentalist **Mike Clark** will be fronting his own band **Sugar Sounds** to mark the release of their soul-influenced debut album, ***Round and Round***.

Those who caught the Stargazers show can expect to see a lot of familiar faces, both on stage and off. Mike Clark & the Sugar Sounds features Windchimes frontman **Inaiah Lujan** on electric guitar, the instrument he favored in his early punk-rock days. Sabin's also onboard, albeit in the role of trumpet player. So is drummer **Alex Koshak** — who was the other key player on the *Anthromusicology* album — and **Marc Benning**, who produced both CDs.

The Sugar Sounds album is a radical shift from Clark's already eclectic repertoire. While his first band, the **Jack Trades**, wore its **Black Keys** and **White Stripes** influences on its sleeve, the subsequent **Ghost of Mike Clark** project veered more toward folk and country influences.

The Sugar Sounds album is a radical shift from Clark's already eclectic repertoire.

And then there was the infectious "Hey Daisy," which racked up nearly 15,000 YouTube views with its 3½-minute video — shot in one take — of Clark singing and playing guitar while riding down Tejon Street on a bike without touching his handlebars once.

"'Daisy' comes from Sugar Sounds, which is my soul band that Grant Sabin is gonna play trumpet in," Clark told the *Indy* in a 2011 interview. "When it finally exists, it'll be Mike Clark & the Sugar Sounds — kind of like a **Sharon Jones & the Dap-Kings** kind of thing."

Actually, "Daisy" never found its way onto *Round and Round*, which crams eight songs into a modest 24-minute running time. The album is a self-consciously retro affair, from its vintage soul-pop arrangements to the CD packaging (think *Burt Bacharach Plays His Hits* or **Cornershop**'s *Woman's Gotta Have It*).

"Burn You Up" opens with that iconic beat from the **Ronettes**' "Be My Baby" — and an appropriately **Phil Spector**-like melody to match — while the closing "Honey" is steeped in **Roy Orbison** melancholia. The latter is also the album's most "arranged" track and, to my ears, one of the most musically successful.

Not all of *Round and Round* works: The **Al Green**-style falsetto swoops on "Smooth Sailin'," for instance, find the singer's reach extending well beyond his grasp. But Clark is a quick study, so don't be surprised if Sugar Sounds has already refined its act by Friday's show.

Also this week, local blues-rock phenom **Jake Loggins** has gotten back in the business of hosting jam sessions. This one will be a monthly event, beginning Thursday at **Stargazers**.

You can also catch **Briffaut** frontman **Daniel James Eaton** doing his first solo show in ages at **Rico's** on Friday. He'll be playing material from his recently completed "year of songs" marathon (366 songs in 366 days) as well as music from Briffaut's forthcoming Kickstarter-funded *maud* album.

Then on Saturday, **Mike Stephens' Men of Deep Throat** will come out of their recent hibernation for two shows in one night. "We're opening [for **Antique Scream**] at the **Zodiac** and then packing up and heading to the **Triple Nickel** to play last," says Stephens, whose recent handful of **Van Halen** tribute gigs stole some thunder from his MODT endeavors. "I think people might have forgotten I actually do original music."

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PlayingAround

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Frankie's, *Open Mic (acoustic),* 8:30 p.m.
Front Range, *Grass It Up (bluegrass),* 7:30 p.m.
Margarita at PineCreek, *Crystal and the Curious (jazz),* 7 p.m.
Meadow Muffins, *Brian Parton (Americana),* 7 p.m.
MoodSwings, *Open Mic Night (acoustic),* 8 p.m., $5, free for jammers.
Park East, *The Martini Shot Unplugged (acoustic),* 7 p.m.
Penrose Room, *Penrose Room Trio with Lila Mori (jazz),* 6:30 p.m.
SouthSide Johnny's, *Rawbert & I (rock/pop),* 9 p.m.
Zodiac, *'80s Dance Nite, hosted by DJ Monster Mike (dance),* 9 p.m.

Thursday 01/24

Adam's, *Ryan Flores (acoustic),* 6:30 p.m.
Ancient Mariner, *Open Mic with Stolen Idol Productions (acoustic),* 8:30 p.m.
Benny's, *Open Mic with the Jerry Roskin Band,* 9 p.m.
Black Sheep, *Sea Wolf (indie),* 8 p.m., $10-$12.
Jack Quinn's, *Brian Clancy (world),* 7:30 p.m.
Margarita at PineCreek, *Craig Walter (acoustic),* 6:30 p.m.
Meadow Muffins, *DJ Tony G (dance),* 9 p.m.
Motif, *Tricia Parish (jazz),* 7:15 p.m.
Park East, *Sarah Wood & Theo DeCenzo (acoustic),* 7 p.m.
Penrose Room, *Penrose Room Trio with Lila Mori (jazz),* 6:30 p.m.
Rico's, *Susan Rissman and Tribe (jazz),* 7 p.m.
Ritz, *DJ Serge (dance),* 9 p.m.
Stargazers, *Jam with Jake Loggins (blues),* 7 p.m.
Tavern at The Broadmoor, *Tavern Orchestra with Lewis Mock (rock/pop),* 8:30 p.m.
Venue 515, *Brendan Hannigan (rock/pop),* 7:30 p.m., $5.

Friday 01/25

Adam's, *Ryan Flores (acoustic),* 9 a.m.
Ancient Mariner, *Monkey Pie (rock/pop),* 8:30 p.m.
Benny's, *Cari Dell Trio (blues),* 9 p.m.
Black Sheep, *Cute Is What We Aim For, Saving Verona (rock/pop)*, 7 p.m., $12-$14.
Broadmoor Academy of Music, *Friday Jazz Jam Session (jazz),* 7 p.m.
Cucuru, *The Flipsides (jazz),* 7 p.m.
Fujiyama, *Barbara Ernst/Mistura Bela (world),* 7 p.m.
Kasey's, *Friday Nights with DJ Panther (R&B),* 9 p.m.
The Loft, *Mike Clark and the Sugar Sounds (indie),* 8 p.m.
Margarita at PineCreek, *Mountain Road Ceili Band (world),* 6:30 p.m.
MoodSwings, *Acoustic Showcase (acoustic),* 8 p.m., $5-$10.
Motif, *Brad Bietry Trio (jazz),* 7:45 p.m.
Penrose Room, *Penrose Room Trio with Lila Mori (jazz),* 6:30 p.m.
Rawkus, *Impulse Friday, feat. Dragon & Jontron, DJ Parrish (dance),* 8 p.m.
Red Martini, *Dick Cunico (acoustic),* 8:30 p.m.
Rico's, *Daniel James Eaton (indie),* 7:30 p.m.
Sky Box Lounge, *Jeff "Fitty" Smith (acoustic),* 7 p.m.
Sonterra, *John Stone (acoustic),* 7 p.m.
SouthSide Johnny's, *Less Than Zero (rock/pop),* 9 p.m.
Stargazers, *Cabaret Under the Dome, with Susan Rissman and John Wise (blues),* 7 p.m., $10.
Sunshine Studios, *A Bad Night for a Hero, Chasing Shadows, Epic Weatherman, Sonic Soma (rock/pop),* 5:30 p.m.
Tavern at The Broadmoor, *Tavern Orchestra with Lewis Mock (rock/pop),* 8:30 p.m.
Townhouse, *The Hillbilly Luv Gawds (rock/pop),* 9 p.m.

VENUE DIRECTORY

Adam's Mountain Café, 934 Manitou Ave., #102, Manitou Springs, 685-1430
Ancient Mariner, 962 Manitou Ave., Manitou Springs, 685-5503
Benny's Restaurant & Lounge, 517 W. Colorado Ave., 634-9309
Black Sheep, 2106 E. Platte Ave., 227-7625
Broadmoor Academy of Music, 1223 Lake Plaza Drive, Suite C, 576-3979
Cosmopolitan Club, 311 Bay State Ave., Pueblo, 719/564-9738
Country Bar, 606 S. Santa Fe Ave., Fountain, 382-5361
Club Q, 3430 N. Academy Blvd., 570-1429
Crystola Roadhouse, 20918 U.S. Hwy. 24, Woodland Park, 687-7879
Cucuru Gallery Café, 2332 W. Colorado Ave., 520-9900
Frankie's Bar & Grill, 945 N. Powers Blvd., 574-4881
Front Range Barbeque, 2330 W. Colorado Ave., 632-2596
Fujiyama, 22 S. Tejon St., Suite A, 630-1167
Jack Quinn Irish Alehouse & Pub, 21 S. Tejon St., 385-0766
Kasey's Bar & Grill, 1919 E. Boulder St., 635-8128
The Loft, 2506 W. Colorado Ave., 445-9278
Lounge in the Village, 3440 W. Carefree Circle, 550-9721
Margarita at PineCreek, 7350 Pine Creek Road, 598-8667
Meadow Muffins, 2432 W. Colorado Ave., 633-0583
MoodSwings Acoustic Lounge, 696 N. Circle Drive, 201-2592
Motif, 2432 Cucharras St., 635-5635
Oakley's Café & Bistro at

Got a live music event readers should know about? Send us the band/musician, where they're playing and when (day, date and time), how much it will cost and a contact phone number — by Wednesday

BigGigs

Ben Folds Five, Ogden Theatre, Denver, Jan. 23 • **Tribal Seeds**, Black Sheep, Jan. 23 • **Sea Wolf**, Black Sheep, Jan. 24 • **Cute Is What We Aim For**, Black Sheep, Jan. 25 • **Raindance**, Seventh Circle Music Collective, Denver, Jan. 25 • **Nonpoint**, Black Sheep, Jan. 26 • **Suzy Bogguss**, Damon Runyon Repertory Theatre, Pueblo, Jan. 26 • **Switchback**, Stargazers Theatre and Event Center, Jan. 26 • **MartyParty**, Black Sheep, Jan. 27 • **The Toasters**, Black Sheep, Jan. 28 • **Delta Rae**, Bluebird Theater, Denver, Jan. 29 • **The Overseer**, Black Sheep, Jan. 30 • **Styx**, Paramount Theatre, Denver, Jan. 30 • **Iration**, Black Sheep, Jan. 31 • **The Darkness**, Summit Music Hall, Denver, Feb. 1 • **Ellie Goulding**, Ogden Theatre, Denver, Feb. 1 • **Pennywise**, Black Sheep, Feb. 1 • **RJD2**, Bluebird Theater, Denver, Feb. 1 • ***Winter on the Rocks*, with Macklemore & Ryan Lewis, Major Lazer**, Red Rocks Amphitheatre, Morrison, Feb. 1 • **Kraddy**, Black Sheep, Feb. 2 • **Agent Orange**, Phil's Radiator, Pueblo, Feb. 3 • **Hatebreed**, Black Sheep, Feb. 5 • **The Growlers**, Black Sheep, Feb. 7 • **Ken Stringfellow**, Moe's Original Bar B Que, Englewood, Feb. 7 • **Fred Hersch**, Dazzle Restaurant and Lounge, Denver, Feb. 7-8 • **Royal Southern Brotherhood**, Crystola Roadhouse, Woodland Park, Feb. 8 • **Listener**, Black Sheep, Feb. 9 • **Victor Wooten**, Cervantes' Masterpiece Ballroom, Denver, Feb. 9 • **El Ten Eleven**, Black Sheep, Feb. 10 • **The Who**, Pepsi Center, Denver, Feb. 12 • **OM**, Larimer Lounge, Denver, Feb. 13 • **Carrie Underwood**, World Arena, Feb. 13 • **Marcia Ball**, Daniels Hall at Swallow Hill, Denver, Feb. 15 • **Michael Johnson**, Stargazers Theatre and Event Center, Feb. 17 • **James McMurtry**, The Loft, Feb. 17 • **Stone Sour, Papa Roach**, Fillmore Auditorium, Denver, Feb. 17 • **Morrissey**, Buell Theatre, Denver, Feb. 21 • ***Rock & Worship Roadshow*, with MercyMe, Jeremy Camp, Tedashii**, World Arena, Feb. 21 • **Savoy**, Boulder Theater, Boulder, Feb. 23 • **Toro y Moi**, Bluebird Theater, Denver, Feb. 23 • **Passion Pit**, 1STBANK Center, Broomfield, March 1 • **PANTyRAID**, Fillmore Auditorium, Denver, March 2 • **Adrian Legg**, Stargazers Theatre and Event Center, March 10 • **Curtis Salgado**, Crystola Roadhouse, Woodland Park, March 15 • **Altan**, Daniels Hall at Swallow Hill, Denver, March 16 • **Vagabond Opera**, Stargazers Theatre and Event Center, March 16 • **Tech N9ne**, Fillmore Auditorium, Denver, March 22 • **Imagine Dragons**, Fillmore Auditorium, Denver, March 23 • **Candye Kane**, Crystola Roadhouse, Woodland Park, March 23 • **Bob Seger & The Silver Bullet Band**, Pepsi Center, Denver, April 2 • **Alt-J**, Bluebird Theater, Denver, April 3 • **Bad Religion**, Fillmore Auditorium, Denver, April 10 • **The Doobie Brothers**, Pikes Peak Center, April 10 • **Big Bill Morganfield**, Crystola Roadhouse, Woodland Park, April 13 • **Peter Yarrow**, Daniels Hall at Swallow Hill, Denver, April 13 • **Miranda Lambert, Dierks Bentley**, Comfort Dental Amphitheatre, Englewood, May 18 • **Buddy Whittington with the Atomic Fireballs**, Crystola Roadhouse, Woodland Park, May 31 • **Fleetwood Mac**, Pepsi Center, Denver, June 1 • **Taylor Swift**, Pepsi Center, Denver, June 2 • **Tim McGraw**, Comfort Dental Amphitheatre, Englewood, June 15 •

Cat Power plays Denver's Ogden Theater Jan. 24.

Triple Nickel, *Word Hearders: An Evening of Slam/Spoken Word with music by Charlie Milo (indie),* 9 p.m.

V Bar, *DJ Gravity (dance),* 9 p.m.

Zodiac, *We Sold Our Souls (hardcore),* 9:30 p.m., $5.

Saturday 01/26

Ancient Mariner, *G Matic (rock/pop),* 8:30 p.m.

Benny's, *Big Sky (rock/pop),* 9 p.m.

Black Sheep, *Nonpoint, Candlelight Red, Digital Summer (hardcore),* 7 p.m., $12-$14.

Cosmopolitan Club, *Cari Dell Trio (blues),* 8 p.m.

Country Bar, *Exit West (country),* 8 p.m.

Crystola Roadhouse, *Jeffrey Alan Band (country),* 8 p.m.

Fujiyama, *DJ Ron Perry (jazz),* 6 p.m.

Jack Quinn's, *Delilah's Revenge (rock/pop),* 9:30 p.m.

Lounge in the Village, *Mike Pike (rock/pop),* 8 p.m.

Meadow Muffins, *DJ Tony G (dance),* 9 p.m.

MoodSwings, *The Other Brother (acoustic),* 8 p.m.

Motif, *Steve Draper Trio (jazz),* 7:45 p.m.

Oakley's, *D Day Invasion (blues),* 8 p.m.

Penrose Room, *Penrose Room Trio with Lila Mori (jazz),* 6:30 p.m.

Rico's, *MoonHoney (folk),* 7:30 p.m.

Ritz, *DJ Tony G (dance),* 9 p.m.

Sky Box Lounge, *The Reid Holmes Invitational "Live Music Jam" (rock/pop),* 8 p.m.

Sonterra, *John Stone (acoustic),* 7 p.m.

SouthSide Johnny's, *Less Than Zero (rock/pop),* 9 p.m.

Stargazers, *Switchback (Americana),* 8 p.m., $20-$25.

Tavern at The Broadmoor, *Tavern Orchestra with Lewis Mock (rock/pop),* 8:30 p.m.

Townhouse, *Mike Nelson Band (blues),* 9 p.m.

Triple Nickel, *The Men of Deep Throat, Knights of Color, Civil Air Patrol (rock/pop),* 9 p.m., $5.

V Bar, *DJ Gravity (dance),* 9 p.m.

Zodiac, *Men of Deep Throat, Antique Scream, Waterbear (rock/pop),* 9 p.m., $5.

Sunday 01/27

Black Sheep, *MartyParty (dance),* 8 p.m., $12-$14.

Jack Quinn's, *Traditional Irish Session (world),* 3 p.m.

Retired Enlisted Association, *Blues Jam with the Tracy Quinn Band (rock/pop),* 3 p.m.

Tavern at The Broadmoor, *Tavern Orchestra with Lewis Mock (rock/pop),* 8:30 p.m.

Tony's, *Sunday Shenanigans, with NateStarr and TaylorLee (dance),* 9:30 p.m.

Urban Steam, *Acoustic Open Mic (acoustic),* 1 p.m.

Zodiac, *Andy D, with special guests (rock/pop),* 9 p.m., $3.

Monday 01/28

Black Sheep, *The Toasters, Mrs. Skannotto (world),* 7 p.m., $12.

Zodiac, *Open Mic hosted by Andrea Stone,* 7 p.m.

Tuesday 01/29

Adam's, *Wayne Hammerstadt (acoustic),* 6:30 p.m.

Townhouse, *Open Mic (acoustic),* 9 p.m.

Zodiac, *Goth Nite with DJ Raid (dance),* 9 p.m.

Sundance Mountain Lodge, 1865 Woodmoor Drive, Monument, 481-6000

Park East Restaurant, 720 Goodnight Ave., Pueblo, 719/565-6655

Penrose Room at The Broadmoor, 1 Lake Ave., 577-5773

Rawkus, 3506 N. Academy Blvd., 596-0000

Red Martini, 25 N. Tejon St., 634-3522

Retired Enlisted Association, 834 Emory Circle, 596-0927

Rico's Café and Wine Bar, 322½ N. Tejon St., 578-5549

Ritz Grill, 15 S. Tejon St., 635-8484

The Sky Box Lounge, 2102 E. Bijou St., 634-4815

Sonterra Innovative Southwest Grill, 28B S. Tejon St., 471-9222

SouthSide Johnny's, 528 S. Tejon St., 444-8487

Stargazers Theatre and Event Center, 10 S. Parkside Drive, 476-2200

Sunshine Studios, 3970 Clearview Frontage Road, 392-8921

Tavern at The Broadmoor, 1 Lake Ave., 577-5772

Tony's Bar, 311 N. Tejon St., 228-6566

Townhouse Lounge, 907 Manitou Ave., Manitou Springs, 685-1085

Triple Nickel Tavern, 26 S. Wahsatch Ave., 477-9555

Urban Steam Coffee Bar, 1025 S. Sierra Madre St., 473-7832

V Bar, 19 E. Kiowa St., 635-9599

Venue 515, 515 Manitou Ave., Manitou Springs, 685-1861

Zodiac, 230 Pueblo Ave., 632-5059

at noon for the following week's paper. If we don't receive confirmation of ongoing events on a monthly basis, they won't run. Send to: livemusic@csindy.com.

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THE BLACK SHEEP

COLORADO SPRINGS

2106 E. PLATTE AVE, CO SPRINGS

Wed, Jan. 23rd - 7:00pm
TRIBAL SEEDS
STICK FIGURE, THE MAAD T-RAY, OFFBEAT REVOLUTION

Thu, Jan. 24th - 8:00pm
KRCC PRESENTS
SEA WOLF
THE DONNIES THE AMYS, WE ARE NOT A GLUM LOT,

Fri, Jan. 25th - 7:00pm
PRESENTED BY 103.9 RXP
CUTE IS WHAT WE AIM FOR
WHY THEY FIGHT, SAVING VERONA

Sat, Jan. 26th - 7:00pm
PRESENTED BY 94.3 KILO
NONPOINT
CANDLELIGHT RED, DIGITAL SUMMER

Sun, Jan. 27th - 8:00pm
MARTY PARTY
WITH SPECIAL GUESTS

Mon, Jan. 28th - 7:00pm
PRESENTED BY 103.9 RXP
THE TOASTERS
MRS. SKANNOTTO, THE STEM BEACH SOUL REVIVAL

Wed, Jan. 30th - 7:00pm
THE OVERSEER
FIT FOR A KING, FORSAKE IT ALL, ALL PROMISES ASIDE

Thu, Jan. 31st - 7:00pm
PRESENTED BY 103.9 RXP
IRATION
PASSAFIRE, PACIFIC DUB

Fri, Feb. 1st - 7:00pm
PRESENTED BY 103.9 RXP & FORTHELOVEOFPUNK.COM
PENNYWISE
DISGUISE THE SPY, PITCH INVASION

Sat, Feb. 2nd - 8:00pm
KRADDY
ANA SIA

Tue, Feb. 5th - 6:00pm
HATEBREED
SHADOWS FALL, DYING FETUS, THE CONTORTIONIST, VITAL MALICE

Thu, Feb 7th - 8:00pm
THE GROWLERS
BAD WEATHER CALIFORNIA

Fri, Feb. 8th - 8:00pm
CHARLIE MILO TRIO
STONEY BERTZ, MADE UP MINDS, MAD TREES, ANIMUS INVIDIOUS VS DJ GRAVITY, & MORE!

UPCOMING EVENTS

FEB 9 - LISTENER
FEB 10 - EL TEN ELEVEN
FEB 13 - THE ROUGE
FEB 14 - MONOPHONICS
FEB 15 - MOD SUN
FEB 16 - TWENTY ONE PILOTS
FEB 17 - THE STEEPWATER BAND
FEB 19 - GOLD FIELDS
FEB 21 - 10 YEARS
FEB 22 - BALLYHOO!
FEB 24 - NATTY VIBES
FEB 25 - TREMONTI
FEB 27 - DARK TIME SUNSHINE
MAR 2 - AVATAR
MAR 5 - SUMERIAN RECORDS BATTLE OF THE BANDS
MAR 8 - CURRENT SWELL
MAR 9 - THE DIRTY HEADS, SHINY TOY GUNS
MAR 10 - SALVADOR SANTANA
MAR 18 - CLUTCH
MAR 19 - PAPER BIRD

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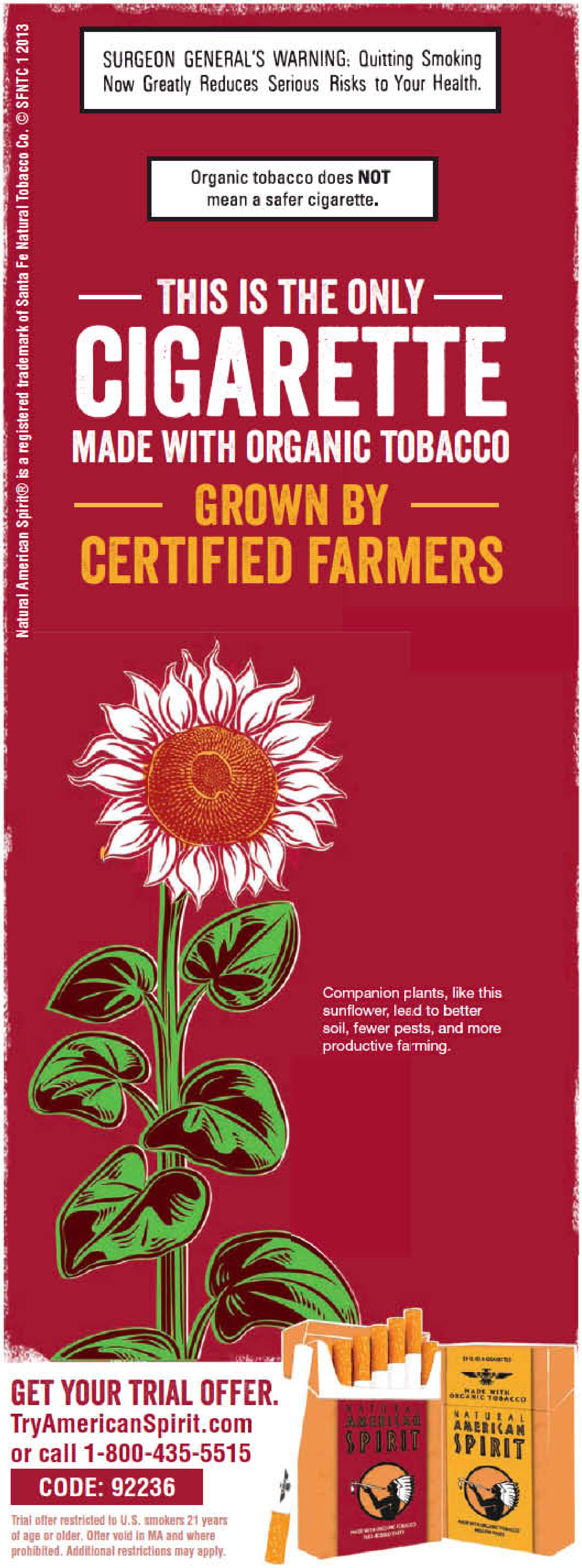
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Alive and kicking

An overhauled Nonpoint gets its engine roaring

By Chris Parker

Longstanding Southern metal act Nonpoint got a reboot on its ninth studio album, which is self-titled in recognition of the album's sense of self-renewal. New blood and a sharpened focus have given the Florida quintet one of its best efforts to date.

Ryan Baker

Post-grunge metalheads Nonpoint: New lineup, new label, new life.

"It's a brand new Nonpoint," says singer Elias Soriano. "Obviously it's the same sentiment and the same purpose, which is elevation through positive methods. I still aim for the heart and the gut when we do what we do onstage. But the new guys are ferocious on their instruments and it's fun to stand in front of that."

Nonpoint formed in Fort Lauderdale in '97, and were quickly lifted by the post-grunge metal boom. By 2000 they'd signed with MCA, and scored a minor hit with the track "What a Day." They also spent time on tour with fellow Southern metal act Sevendust, developing a close friendship in the process. While Soriano and Sevendust's Lajon Witherspoon both have vocal styles that are strangely soulful by metal standards, the two frontmen also came from different backgrounds.

'I still aim for the heart and the gut.'

"I think because we're a little culturally diverse, me being Latino and him being African American, it's definitely a different palette we're singing off," Soriano says.

In the years since, the group has toured regularly while maintaining a steady release schedule, building a grassroots following that landed them on Billboard's Rock, Alternative and Album charts with 2010's *Miracle* and last year's eponymous follow-up.

But even as momentum was building, cracks were forming. Founding guitarist Andrew Goldman had left toward the end of 2008, and his replacement Zach Broadrick wasn't working out.

"We really weren't feeling Zach's vibes," says Soriano. "His style was a little bit different than what Robb and I were really looking for when Andy left the band. Andy had a really cool style about him and he was very involved in the music writing."

Both Broadrick and bassist Ken MacMillan left after *Miracle*. But the band pulled itself back together with new guitarists Dave Lizzio and Rasheed Thomas, as well as bassist Adam Woloszyn. The change in attitude was readily apparent as they cranked out 30 songs for Nonpoint, where before they had all they could do to write enough to fill one album.

Another big change came when Razor & Tie signed Nonpoint and offered them the opportunity to bring in a big name producer. Though they'd been self-produced since the MCA days, they jumped at the chance to work with Johnny K, who'd previously produced 3 Doors Down, Staind and Plain White T's.

And the changes just keep coming for Soriano. Not only has he released a new album on a new label with new bandmates, he's also become a father and moved to Battle Creek, Mich., to be near his fiancée's family.

"When you have a child, it opens up your head in a way that is unexplainable. You really can't put your thumb on it. It's really just love, honestly, figuring out what love is, once you see your child. It's completely different. It's a mindfuck," he says, playfully referencing the recurring line from Russell Brand's *Get Him to the Greek*. "My daughter is mindfucking me. It's amazing to look down and I can be in the worst mood, and when that kid smiles at you, you're done."

CAPSULE

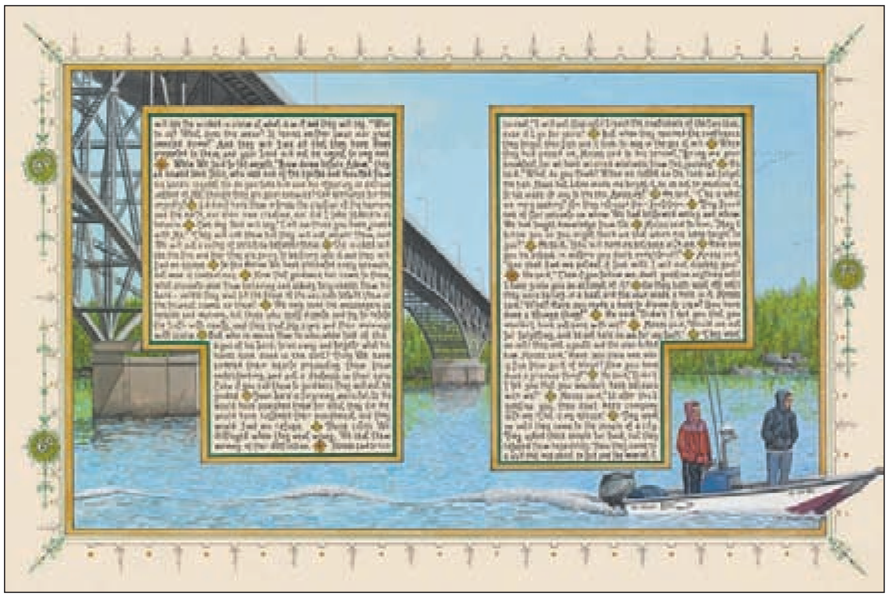
Nonpoint with Candlelight Red, Digital Summer
Saturday, Jan. 26, 7 p.m. door
Black Sheep, 2106 E. Platte Ave.
$12/adv, $14/door, all-ages; blacksheeprocks.com, 227-7625.

— scene@csindy.com

Listings

YOUR GUIDE TO EVENTS IN THE PIKES PEAK REGION

PICK Indicates our recommendations for this week.



PICK **I.D.E.A. Space at Colorado College,** Cornerstone Arts Center, 825 N. Cascade Ave., 389-6066, theideaspace.com. *American Qur'an*, an exhibit of paintings depicting Los Angeles artist Sandow Birk's modern interpretation of the Muslim holy book. Through March 12. Free.

ArtEvents

Bemis School of Art classes, offering a variety of courses for all ages on topics such as: drawing, painting, ceramics, bookmaking, digital arts, leather crafting and more. Bemis School of Art, 818 Pelham Place, 475-2444, csfineartscenter.org.

Cottonwood Center for the Arts classes, offering courses on topics including: painting, drawing, art marketing, writing, digital media, mixed media and more. Cottonwood Center for the Arts, 427 E. Colorado Ave., 520-1899, cottonwoodcenterforthearts.com.

Fare Bella classes, offering classes on topics such as: snowscapes, creating mood, watercolor batik, playing with textures and more. $55-$65. Fare Bella Studio and Gallery, 16 Ruxton Ave., Manitou Springs, 720/226-4315.

Hootenanny for the Arts, a red-carpet event benefiting and celebrating the local arts community, featuring the premiere of the trailer for *CREEP!* the Colorado Springs-based dark comedy film as well as contributions from the Modbo, Douglas Rouse, Taiko Society Drummers and Ormao Dance Company. Fri., Jan. 25, 6:30-9 p.m. $25-$30. The Mansion, 20 N. Tejon St, 634-3522, cbrodsly@gmail.com, coppercolo.org/get-involved/hootenanny-arts.

Red-Headed Zombie's Rock & Art Best of 2012 Show, a showcase of top artists and bands from last year, with live music and an art contest. Fri., Jan. 25, 6:30 p.m. Free. Sunshine Studios, 3970 Clearview Frontage Road, 392-8921, redheadedzombieshow.com.

Sell (More of) Your Art, a new workshop in COPPeR's Artist Boot Camp series, focusing on ways to take greater advantage of the business opportunities at our region's circuit of summertime arts festivals. Wed., Jan. 23, 5:30 p.m. COPPeR (Cultural Office of the Pikes Peak Region), 121 S. Tejon St., #111, 634-2204, coppercolo.org/programs/bootcamps.

Sheppard Art Institute classes, offering a variety of classes such as: pastels, African mask-making, beginning drawing, oil and acrylic painting and more. First Presbyterian Church, 219 E. Bijou St., 282-2706, sheppardartinstitute.org.

Third Place — Heart Gallery of America, a chance to see works from this collaborative project in an open studio setting, with artist appearances during receptions on the first and third Fridays between 5-8 p.m. Sangre de Cristo Arts Center, 210 N. Santa Fe Ave., Pueblo, 719/295-7200, sdc-arts.org.

ArtExhibits

PICK **The Bridge Gallery,** 218 W. Colorado Ave., thebridgeartgallery.com. *Congregation of the Unknown*, a collection of "illustrated sculpture" by Cole Bennett and Deena Bennett. Also held in the Commons Gallery. Through Jan. 31.

CC's Coburn Gallery, Worner Campus Center, 902 N. Cascade Ave., 389-6606, theideaspace.com. *Basim Magdy: How to Build an Invisible Monument*, a solo show by this Middle Eastern artist, who works in multiple media to alter "entrenched cultural views" and play with notions of irony and absurdity. Through March 8.

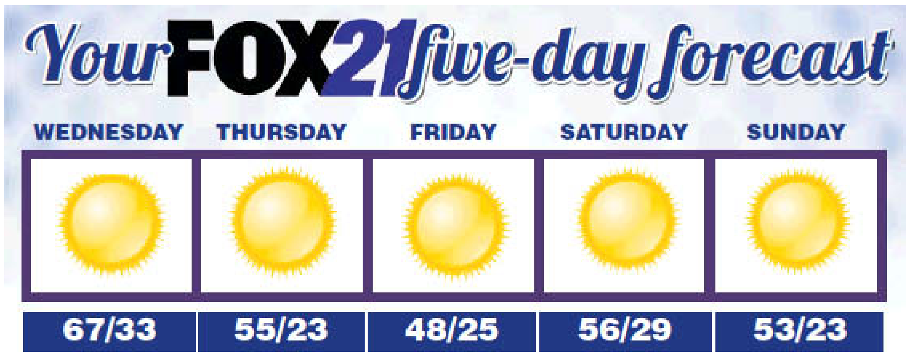
Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center, 30 W. Dale St., 634-5581, csfineartscenter.org. *Wrap Art: Guatemalan Textiles from the Permanent Collection*, as part of the FAC's *Raiding the Crates* series, a guest-curated exhibit of Guatemalan textiles. Through May 26.

Commonwheel Artists Co-op, 102 Cañon Ave., Manitou Springs, 685-1008, commonwheel.com. *Pots by the Pound*, a post-holiday sale featuring discounted art priced by weight. Through Jan. 28.

PICK **Cottonwood Center for the Arts,** 427 E. Colorado Ave., 520-1899, cottonwoodcenterforthearts.com. *Cajun and Carnival*, an all-media juried show on the theme of Mardi Gras. Jan. 25 to Feb. 8. Opening reception Fri., Jan. 25, 5-8 p.m.

G44 Gallery, 1785 S. 8th St., Suite A, 720/951-0573, g44gallery.com. *Diversity, Perversity & Perplexity*, an exhibition of the life work of Old Colorado City artist William Cummins.

GOCA 1420 at UCCS, 1420 Austin Bluffs Pkwy., 255-3567, galleryuccs.org. *styrobot: nothing comes from nothing*, a solo show by Michael Salter in which he has built a giant meditating



WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
67/33	55/23	48/25	56/29	53/23

PIKES PEAK DERBY DAMES
WOMEN'S FLAT TRACK ROLLER DERBY
SATURDAY, JANUARY 26
Colorado Springs City Auditorium
221 East Kiowa St.
DOORS AT 6
BOUT AT 7
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TICKETS
GENERAL ADMISSION
$10 in Advance - $15 @ Door
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7:00 to 9:00pm
Kat will lead you through heart opening partner poses with a special emphasis on creativity and connection.
Wine, refreshments and chocolate will be provided.
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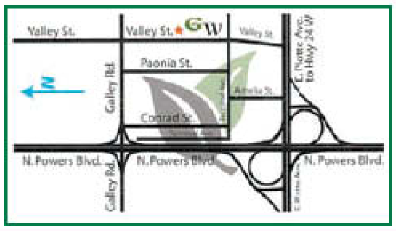

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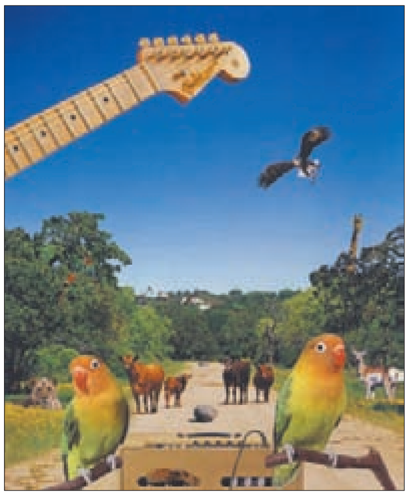
robot out of collected pieces of foam packing material. Jan. 24 to March 22. Opening reception and artist's talk, Thurs., Jan. 24, 5-8 p.m.

Kreuser Gallery, 218 W. Colorado Ave., 630-6347, abigailkreusergallery.com. *Photography by Tim Davis*, a solo show by this artist who says, "Old, worn, weathered, and well-used industrial objects often hold the greatest attraction for me since those surfaces provide rich material for my imagination." Next door, in the Aha Gallery, find work by Jack Risley. Through Jan. 31.

PICK **Sangre de Cristo Arts Center,** 210 N. Santa Fe Ave., Pueblo, 719/295-7200, sdc-arts.org. *Battle Portraits: Wounded Lions Wounded Lambs*, a presentation of local artist Laura Ben-Amots' years-long project in which she interviewed and painted wounded soldiers struggling to re-enter civilian life. Also on display, works inspired by "the changing relationship between war and women" by Ben-Amots, titled *War Brides*. Through Feb. 13. *Gene Diodato*, held in Sangre's Foyer galleries, a series of plein air paintings. Through April 20. *Klaus Anselm*, a series of works by this Pueblo artist who hails from Germany and worked as a doctor before turning to weaving. Through April 20.



PICK **Dogtooth Coffee Company,** 505 E. Columbia St., 632-0125, dogtoothcoffee.com. *Collages by Dave Armstrong*, a solo show by Armstrong that includes works from his 25-piece series based on the myth of Orpheus. Through March 1. Closing reception, Fri., March 1, 7-9 p.m.

Tri-Lakes Center for the Arts, 304 Hwy. 105, Palmer Lake, 481-0475, trilakesarts.org. *From the Earth*, a collection of fine art made from wood, clay and stone. Through Feb. 2.

Venue 515, 515 Manitou Ave., Manitou Springs, 685-1861, thebac.org. *You and Not Your Gifts*, a solo show of fabric and mixed-media work by Emily Hines. Jan. 25 to March 9. Opening reception, Fri., Jan. 25, 6 p.m.

Auditions&Entries

America the Beautiful Barbershop Chorus Open House, a chance to join the chorus, receive free vocal training and more. Tues., Jan. 29, 7:30 p.m. Village Christian Church, 3113 Primrose Drive, 645-8649, atbchorus.com.

Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center seeks submissions of new scripts for its April program, *Rough Writers: A New Play Fest*. *Rough Writers* will feature new scripts based on three works of art in the museum. After the Fest, the winning play will be staged during the FAC Theatre Company's 2013-2014 season. More information available online. Submissions due: Feb. 14. Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center, 30 W. Dale St., 634-5581, roughwriters@csfineartscenter.org, csfineartscenter.org.

Cottonwood Center for the Arts seeks entries for its upcoming show, *The Life Abstract.* Abstract, nonfigurative, nonobjective or nonrepresentational works in a variety of media, including 3-D, will be considered. Intake: March 21-22. It also seeks entries for its upcoming show, *Wily and Wonderful Things.* Works celebrating the aesthetics of outsider art and steampunk will be considered, including painting, sculpture and worn art. Intake: May 23-24. Go online for more information about intake on both shows. Cottonwood Center for the Arts, 427 E. Colorado Ave., 520-1899, info@cottonwoodcenterforthearts.com, cottonwoodcenterforthearts.com/events.

Kreuser Gallery seeks works for its upcoming juried show *Climb!* which will seek to portray different facets of climbing. All media accepted. Deadline for entries is Jan. 23. $5-$10. Kreuser Gallery, 218 W. Colorado Ave., 630-6347, abigailkreusergallery.com.

The Pikes Peak Arts Fest seeks visual artists interested in exhibiting and selling work at the next festival in America the Beautiful Park. Deadline for entries is March 8. pikespeakartsfest.com.

Pikes Peak Workforce Center seeks employers willing to hire youths for summer jobs, participating in the Annual Governor's Summer Job Hunt Youth Job Fair on March 7. Contact 667-3829 or bobgemignani@elpasoco.com to sign up. Pikes Peak Workforce Center, Citizens Service Center, 1675 Garden of the Gods Road, #1107, 667-3700, ppwfc.org.

St. Patrick's Day Parade call for entries, the parade committee seeks marching bands, service groups, school groups, youths, 4-H and horse groups, as well as dancers, singers and anyone who wants to build a float. Go online for an entry application or call for more information. Deadline for entries: Feb. 22, 4 p.m. 635-8803, csstpats.com.

Clubs&Organizations

Colorado Native Club, a gathering for native Coloradans over a potluck dinner with a presentation on state history and culture. Fourth Thursday of every month, 5:45-7:30 p.m. Free, $10 per year to join. Inn at Garden Plaza, 2520 International Circle, 632-6806, innatgardenplaza.com.

No-Nuts Moms Group of Colorado Springs, a peanut- and tree-nut-free playgroup for all ages, who can participate in indoor and outdoor play dates. Contact the group for specific times and dates. Free. tinyurl.com/nonutsmoms.

Parent Education/Toddler Playgroup, a "positive parenting" playgroup for 2- to 3-year-olds. Call for location. Fridays, 9:30 a.m.; through March 8. 785-3714.

Peak Digital Imaging Society Meeting, a club for photography enthusiasts. This month's meeting features The Pikes Peak Guy, who recently published a photo essay capturing a different view of Pikes Peak every day for a year. Thurs., Jan. 24, 6:30 p.m. Colorado Springs Senior Center, 1514 N. Hancock Ave., 306-4894, imagesociety.org.

Photography Classes and Group, offering photography and Photoshop classes at various locations around town. Visit 3peaksphoto.com/classes.html for a schedule. A photography group is also open to new members of all skill levels. Visit meetup.com/The-Colorado-Photography-Learning-Group for more information. 260-6637.

Pikes Peak Jugglers, an informal group of jugglers ranging in skill from beginners to pros. Non-members are welcome. Sundays, 3-5 p.m. Free. Downtown YMCA, 207 N. Nevada Ave., 477-9978, ppymca.org.

Pikes Peak New Horizons Band, a band organization for adults 40 and up who would like to continue to play musical instruments. Tuesdays, Thursdays, 9:15-11:15 a.m. Nazarene Bible College, 1111 Academy Park Loop, 598-2373, ppiom.org.

Sno Jets Ski and Social Club, a club for ski enthusiasts. Thursdays, 7:30 p.m. Dublin House, 1850 Dominion Way, 265-8820, snojets.org.

WINGS, offering therapist-facilitated support groups for adult survivors of childhood sexual abuse in which survivors are believed and accepted. A women's group is held on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6:30-8:30. 800/373-8671, wingsfound.org.

Comedy&Improv

Chris "Crazy Legs" Fonseca, a performance from the comedian. Proceeds benefit Cause 4 the Paws, and Animal Rescue of the Rockies. Thurs., Jan. 24, 8 p.m. $10. Loonee's Comedy Corner, 1305 N. Academy Blvd., 591-0707, loonees.com.

Stand Up or Shut Up, an open-mic comedy night. Mon., Jan. 28, 8:30 p.m. Free. Thunder & Buttons II, 2415 W. Colorado Ave., 447-9888, thunderandbuttons.com.

Concerts

Broadmoor Academy of Music Open House, a chance for prospective music students and their families to hear performances from current students and faculty, enjoy food and drink, and win free lessons for guitar, piano, drums, voice and more. Sun., Jan. 27, 5-7 p.m. Broadmoor Academy of Music, 1223 Lake Plaza Drive, Suite C, 576-3979, broadmooracademyofmusic.com.

An Evening of Jazz, the latest in the monthly U.S. Air Force Academy Band Chamber Recital Series. Mon., Jan. 28, 7:30 p.m. Sangre de

Cristo Arts Center, 210 N. Santa Fe Ave., Pueblo, 719/404-2780, sdc-arts.org.

Festival Fridays, a party benefitting the center featuring music from Bad Habitz. Fri., Jan. 25, 5:30 p.m. $5-$6. Sangre de Cristo Arts Center, 210 N. Santa Fe Ave., Pueblo, 719/295-7200, sdc-arts.org.

Friends House Concerts: Willy Porter, Sun., Feb. 10, 7 p.m. ($30); Seth Glier, Fri., March 22, 7:30 p.m. ($20). Payment should be checks made out to Friends House Concerts. house-concerts.org.

Jazz Recital, an evening of standards from Ed Nuccio and the New Horizons KICKS band, featuring ensemble performances of jazz favorites. Fri., Jan 25, 7:30-9 p.m. First Evangelical Free Church, 820 N. 30th St., 634-2463, nhbcosmusic.com.

Joe Uveges, a night of "funny and uplifting songs" from the performer; with Katie Uveges. Fri., Jan. 25, 7 p.m. $10. Colorado Springs Senior Center, 1514 N. Hancock Ave.

Music Jam, a jam for those with little or no musical experience. Fridays, 3:30-5:30 p.m. Business of Art Center, 513 Manitou Ave., Manitou Springs, 685-1861, thebac.org.

Peakharmonic Youth Orchestra, a concert of works by John Williams, Delius, Schubert, and Rimsky-Korsakov, plus an original piece directed and composed by local composer Ken Miller. Sun., Jan. 27, 4 p.m. Front Range Alliance Church, 5210 Centennial Blvd., 213-6850, peakharmonic.org.

Wagner & Beethoven, the Colorado Springs Philharmonic puts on a feast of classical German talent with pieces from Wagner, Beethoven, Mozart and Weber. Sat., Jan. 26, 8 p.m. and Sun., Jan. 27, 2:30 p.m. $19-$59. Pikes Peak Center, 190 S. Cascade Ave., 520-7469, csphilharmonic.org.

DanceParties&Classes

CommuniDance, a free-form dance group. Saturdays, 9-10 a.m. and Wednesdays, 6-7 p.m. By donation. Movement Arts Community Studio, 525 E. Fountain Blvd., #150, 963-1809.

Contact Improv, a partner dance form based on a shared point of contact. Wednesdays, 7 p.m.; through Jan. 31. By donation. Movement Arts Community Studio, 525 E. Fountain Blvd., #150, 963-1809.

Country-Western Dance Party, easy line dances, cowboy cha-chas, two-steps and square dances with the help of instructors. No partner or experience required. Come at 7 p.m. for new-dancer instructions. Second and Fourth Saturday of every month, 7:30-9:30 p.m. $1-$5. The Carriage Stop, 2700 W. Robinson St., 598-8624, roncounts.com.

Film

The Big Picture: Rethinking Dyxlexia, a screening of the documentary about what it's like to be dyslexic through the eyes of children. Fri., Jan. 25, 5:45 and 7:15 p.m. Free. The Broadmoor, 1 Lake Ave., 634-7711, coloradoliteracynow.org.

Education Under Fire, a documentary film hosted by the Baha'i Community of Colorado Springs, highlighting the continuing struggle of Iran's largest religious minority to gain equal access to higher education. Mon., Jan. 28, 7 p.m. Rockrimmon Branch Library, 832 Village Center Drive, 209-1054, educationunderfire.com.

***My Country is Tibet* and BYkids,** several screenings of short BYkids films that outline the importance of filmmaking for young people across the world. One film was made by Namgyal Trichen, "the only living descendant of the first Dharma King of Tibet," and former CC trustee Holly Carter '85, a Pulitzer Prize-nominated journalist and the founder of BYkids. Mon., Jan. 28, 7 p.m. Free. CC's Cornerstone Arts Center, 825 N. Cascade Ave., coloradocollege.edu.

Occupation 101, a documentary film on the current and historical causes of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Thurs., Jan. 24, 6:30 p.m. Penrose Library, 20 N. Cascade Ave., 715/803-3488, middleeastpeaceproject.net.

The Pueblo Performing Arts Guild, in conjunction with the Pueblo Urban Renewal Authority, seeks local filmmakers to make a short promotional video about the city's creative scene. Filmmakers must live in Pueblo County. Submissions are due by Jan. 25. 855/543-2430, pueblopag.org.

Yangsi, a documentary on the life and experiences of a Tibetan Buddhist boy recognized as the reincarnation of a revered meditation master. Sat., Jan 26, 2 p.m. CC's Cornerstone Arts Center, 825 N. Cascade Ave., 632-7678, bodhimindcenter.org.

Food&Drink

Avery Beer Dinner, a multi-course dinner featuring the beers of Avery Brewing Co. Wed., Jan. 30, 6:30 p.m. $85. The Blue Star, 1645 S. Tejon St., 632-1086, thebluestar.net.

FUNdamentals in Wine Series, an educational series on wine fundamentals with wine, instruction and paired snacks. Reservations required, and can be made through Women for WineSense's website. Fourth Wednesday of every month, 5:30 p.m. $35. Soirée Events & Celebrations, 1003 A&B S. Tejon St., 351-7191, womenforwinesense.org.

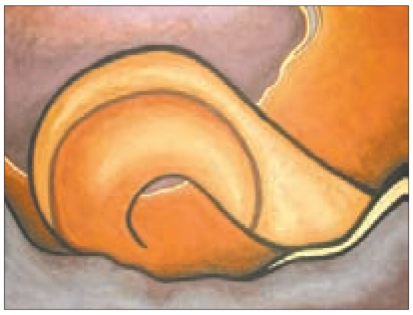
Geeks Who Drink Pub Quiz, Mondays, 8 p.m. Jack Quinn Irish Alehouse & Pub, 21 S. Tejon St., 385-0766, jackquinnspub.com. Tuesdays, 8 p.m. Tony's Bar, 311 N. Tejon St., 228-6566, tonysdowntownbar.com. Wednesdays, 8 p.m. McCabe's Tavern, 520 S. Tejon St., 633-3300, mccabestavern.com.

GetInvolved

Food for Thought Luncheon, a special edition of the Peak Freedom Forum's signature event, held to honor the Westside Community Center with UCCS' 2012 Civic Innovator of the Year Award. RSVP recommended. Tues., Jan. 29, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. $30. Cheyenne Mountain Resort, 3225 Broadmoor Valley Road, 235-5476, info@peakfreedomforum.org, cheyennemountain.com.

Interpretive Volunteer Orientation, a chance to learn more about volunteer opportunities at the nature center. Volunteers must be 18 and up and fill out an application. Reservations at 520-6387 or bcfcvolunteers@gmail.com required. Sat., Jan. 26, 9 a.m. Bear Creek Nature Center, 245 Bear Creek Road, 520-6387, elpasocountyparks.com.

The Middle East Peace Project, two-week summer camp with the Israeli Committee Against Housing Demolitions. Pikes Peak Justice and Peace Commission, 332 W. Bijou St. #102, 715/803-3488, middleeastpeaceproject.net.



PICK **Business of Art Center,** 513 Manitou Ave., Manitou Springs, 685-1861, thebac.org. *Generations*, a series of multimedia works from four generations of women in one family, including BAC artist LuDel Deal Walter. Jan. 25 to March 4. *Earth Works*, work called "Earth pigment paintings" from local artist Audrey Gray (pictured). Jan. 25 to March 9. Opening reception for both shows, Fri., Jan. 25, 6 p.m.

Urban Renewal Authority Board call, apply to serve on this volunteer board. Preferred applicants will have experience in redevelopment and master planning, and familiarity with the City's Development Review Process is desirable. Send letters of interest and résumés to bbonn@springsgov.com or Mayor Steve Bach, 30 S. Nevada Ave., Colorado Springs, CO, 80903. Applications may also be filled out online (then e-mailed or snail mailed) at springsgov.com (click "Get Involved," then "Committees, Commissions and Boards"). Applications due no later than Jan. 23. 385-5900.

Health&Healing

Climb to Conquer Cancer Open House, an informational meeting on the American Cancer Society's yearly team-based hiking and fundraising event. Thurs., Jan 24, 4-6 p.m. American Cancer Society Office, 1445 N. Union Blvd., 630-4967, coloradospringsclimb.org.

The Eight Keys to Well-Being, a workshop that encourages participants to revisit the status of their well-being with eight basic principles reimagined for the 21st century. Sat., Jan. 26, 1-4 p.m. $75. Center for Powerful Living, 635 Southpointe Court, #220, 661-2741, info@centerforpowerfulliving.com, centerforpowerfulliving.com.

Mantherapy, a town hall meeting to introduce the new Internet-based, men-focused program of Suicide Prevention Partnership. Open to all, the meeting will cover men's health facts, empowering testimonials, and tips for changing behavior long-term. Thurs., Jan. 24, 9-10:30 a.m. Citizens Service Center, 1675 Garden of the Gods Road, 573-7447, pikespeaksuicideprevention.org.

Medicine Wheel and 12 Steps for Youth, a three-to four-month course for youths who are at risk for substance abuse. $15. Lotus Center for Self-Discovery, 2860 S. Circle Drive, #120, 229-8280, lotuscenterco.org.

Mind, Body, and Spirit Retreat, a conference presented by the Pilates Coalition of Colorado Springs, featuring three speakers as well as a book signing with Gary Claderone, author of *The Pilates Path to Health*. Sat., Jan. 26, 11 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. $50-65. Cheyenne Mountain Resort, 3225 Broadmoor Valley Road, 575-0585, cheyennemountain.com.

"Own Your Own Health," an interactive workshop designed to help you be healthier. Tues., Jan. 29, 6:30 p.m. Free. East Library, 5550 N. Union Blvd., 303/995-8275, oyoh.org.

Yoga for People Living with HIV/AIDS, open to friends as well. Saturdays, 10:30 a.m. free. Pikes Peak Metropolitan Community Church, 1102 S. 21st St., 304-9130.

Kids&Family

Bubble Time With Friends, a storytime for babies up to 12 months old, featuring songs and bouncing action rhymes. Fridays, 10 a.m.; through Jan. 25. High Prairie Library, 7035 Old Meridian Road, 593-8000, ppld.org.

Charter School Q&A, a public information session about the new charter school using the Waldorf method. Mon., Jan. 28, 6:30 p.m. Free. Sand Creek Branch Library, 1821 S. Academy Blvd., 410/980-6386, mountainsongschool.com.

Children's History Hour, the popular tour/craft/storytime series at CSPM, will feature *Once Upon a Starry Night: A Book of Constellations* and a scavenger hunt in the "To the Moon: Snoopy Soars With NASA" exhibit. RSVP by Jan. 25. Sat., Jan. 26, 10:30 a.m. Colorado Springs Pioneers Museum, 215 S. Tejon St., 385-5990, cspm.org.

Nature Program: Bird Watching, a story hour for preschoolers with a craft to make and take home. Reservations recommended. Fri., Jan. 25, 10 a.m. Garden of the Gods Visitor & Nature Center, 1805 N. 30th St., 219-0108, gardenofgods.com.

Lectures&Learning

"Beyond Colorado: How to Bring Your Products and Services to the Global Marketplace," a workshop and panel from the office of U.S. Sen. Michael Bennet designed to help Colorado entrepreneurs grow their business. RSVP by Jan. 23 for Jan. 24, 5:30 p.m. event. Free. Centennial Hall, 200 S. Cascade Ave., 303/455-7600, bennet.senate.gov.

Black History Month Kickoff, a luncheon and lecture from Ethiopian Deacon Yosef Tafarie on "The Story of the Bible from Ethiopian History." Sponsored by the African-American Historical and Genealogical Society of Colorado Springs. Sat., Jan. 26, noon to 3 p.m. Penrose Library, 20 N. Cascade Ave., 531-6333, aahgscs@aol.com, ppld.org.

Fire and Life Safety Evacution Training, a chance to learn more about fire safety, from evacuation techniques to using smoke and carbon monoxide alarms and more. Wed., Jan. 23, 6 p.m. Free.

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The Lion in Winter, a production of this award-winning play about King Henry II of England, his estranged wife Eleanor of Aquitaine, and their three sons, each vying for the throne. Through Feb. 3. $10-$15. Springs Ensemble Theatre, 1903 E. Cache La Poudre St., 357-3080, springsensembletheatre.org.

CSPD Gold Hill Division, 955 W. Moreno St., tinyurl.com/bgduh6m.

Full Moon Tour, a chance to see the center and some of the wolves up close. Wear warm clothes and bring a flashlight and camera. Reservations required; no children under 8 permitted. Sat., Jan. 26, 4 p.m. $15-$25. Colorado Wolf & Wildlife Center, 4729 Twin Rocks Road, Divide, 687-9742, wolfeducation.org.

Hawk Identification Field Trip, a guided tour through El Paso County to identify local birds of prey. Bring binoculars if you have them. Reservations required. Sat., Jan. 26, 8:30 a.m. $5-$7. Fountain Creek Nature Center, 320 Peppergrass Lane, Fountain, 520-6745, elpasocountyparks.com.

Ray Kurzweil, a lecture from the famed inventor, computer scientist and director of engineering at Google. Wed., Jan. 23, 7 p.m. Free. CSU-Pueblo's Hoag Hall, 2200 Bonforte Blvd., Pueblo, 719/549-2151, colostate-pueblo.edu/ses.

Tax Talks, a chance to get free tax advice from H&R Block professionals and the Pikes Peak Library District on a variety of topics including property ownership, family tax credits and the Affordable Care Act. Topics, times and locations vary by date; call for details. Mondays-Thursdays, Saturdays; through Jan. 30. 369-8326.

Toxic Family, a sack lunch workshop introducing EFT (Emotional Freedom Technique) as a problem-solving tool for understanding and neutralizing negative emotional triggers in family behavior patterns. Sat., Jan. 26, 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Rockrimmon Branch Library, 832 Village Center Drive, 271-6089, smoothchanges.com.

"Why Civil Resistance Works: Understanding Triumphs and Failures in Nonviolent Conflict," a presentation by prize-winning scholar, teacher and author Erica Chenoweth, who has done much research in support of peaceful change. Fri., Jan. 25, 7 p.m. Free. CC's McHugh Student Commons, 1090 N. Cascade Ave., coloradocollege.edu.

LiteraryEvents

COSine 2013, a multi-day science-fiction convention featuring author S.M. Stirling as the guest of honor. Jan. 25-27. Friday-through-Sunday, $10-$45; single day, $15-$30. Crowne Plaza Hotel, 2886 S. Circle Drive, 720/924-6373, firstfridayfandom.org/cosine.

The Pikes Peak Poet Laureate Project, in conjunction with the Fountain Valley School, seeks original poems from area high-school students for a poetry contest. Deadline for entries is March 1. Fountain Valley School, 6155 Fountain Valley School Road, 337-0004, dreynolds@fvs.edu, fvs.edu.

Word Wednesdays, an open mic session for poets, comedians, actors, singers and other performers to share their work. Search the event on Facebook for more. Wednesdays, 8 p.m. V Bar, 19 E. Kiowa St., 313-0683.

SpecialEvents

Business Alliance Luncheon, with the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs' chancellor talking about "The Changing Face of the University." RSVP by Jan. 29 for the Jan. 31, 11:30 a.m. event. $35-$45. Antlers Hilton, 4 S. Cascade Ave., 884-2832, antlers.com.

Glass Slipper Ball, a black-tie night of dancing, silent and live auctions, and food from chefs across the region. Sat., Jan. 26, 7 p.m. $100. DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel, 1775 East Cheyenne Mountain Blvd., 377-4507, glassslipperball.com.

Green Cities Coalition Fifth Birthday Bash, a potluck bash for friends and members of the Coalition, with information on the organization's accomplishments and future plans. RSVP to sustain@ppjpc.org. Thurs., Jan. 24, 5:30 p.m. First United Methodist Church, 420 N. Nevada Ave., 471-8522, fumc-cs.org.

Learn More About PERA, a public, informational town-hall meeting about retirement and PERA. Wed., Jan. 23, 6 p.m. East Library, 5550 N. Union Blvd., 720/432-9148, securepera.org.

Mochitsuki, a rice-pounding event to honor the new year in the Japanese tradition. Reservations recommended. Sat., Jan. 26, 10 a.m. to noon. Free. CC's Worner Campus Center, 902 N. Cascade Ave., 389-6607, pmaruyama@earthlink.net, japanamerica.org.

Spirituality

"Buddhist Psychology of Understanding the Mind," a series on Thursdays through Feb. 14. $7-$10. Center for Spiritual Living, 3685 Jeannine Drive, 596-6894, cslcs.org.

"Creating a Sacred Place," a 90-minute workshop on creating a special place in your own space. Sat., Jan. 26, 1 p.m. $30. cambio. Yoga, 3326 Austin Bluffs Pkwy., 321-8547, cambioyoga.com.

Spirituality Group, Thursdays, 7-9 p.m. Black Cat Books, 513 Manitou Ave., Manitou Springs, manitoubooks.com.

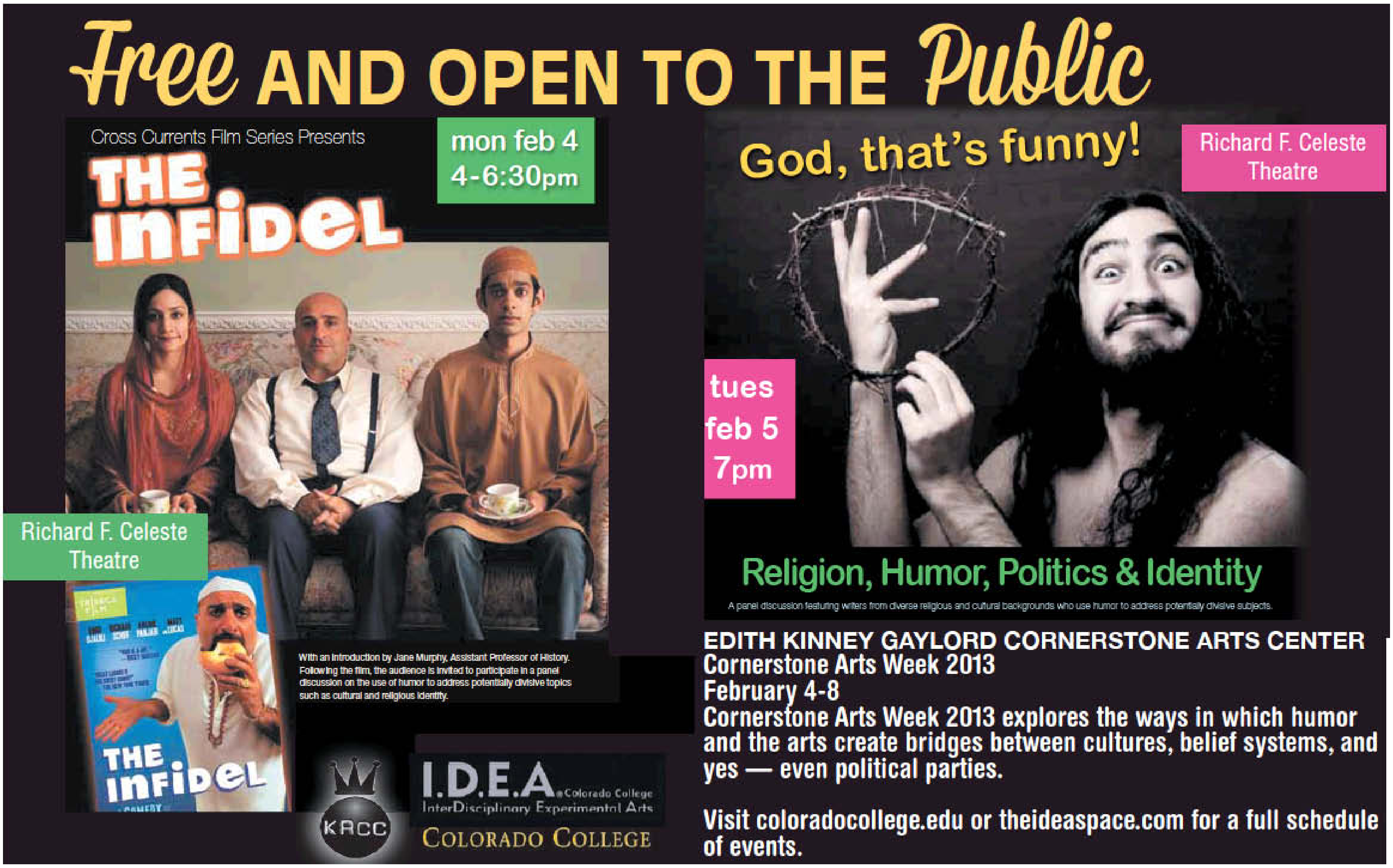
Springs Mountain Sangha, offering Zen meditation sessions Monday evenings from 6:10-8 p.m. (newcomers please arrive at 5:45); Wednesdays from 6:30-7:30 a.m.; and Saturdays from 6:30-8:30 a.m. CC's Shove Memorial Chapel, 1010 N. Nevada Ave., 685-1994, smszen.org.

Tibetan Buddhist Meditation, join for meditation and teaching on offerings practice with Venerable Sangpo. Wednesdays, 7 p.m. Free, or by donation. CC's Shove Memorial Chapel, 1010 N. Nevada Ave., 447-9880, tsling.org.

Weekly Spiritual Gathering, weekly, nonreligious meet-ups with "laughter, song and great people." RSVP for more information. Wednesdays, 6-8:30 p.m. By donation. 433-9625, kenpeacecarroll@gmail.com.

Sports&Recreation

Colorado Springs Cruisers, easy, weekly rides that leave Lofty's by 10 and hit downtown spots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With an Introduction by Jane Murphy, Assistant Professor of History. Following the film, the audience is invited to participate in a panel discussion on the use of humor to address potentially divisive topics such as cultural and religious identity.

A panel discussion featuring writers from diverse religious and cultural backgrounds who use humor to address potentially divisive subjects.

EDITH KINNEY GAYLORD CORNERSTONE ARTS CENTER
Cornerstone Arts Week 2013
February 4-8
Cornerstone Arts Week 2013 explores the ways in which humor and the arts create bridges between cultures, belief systems, and yes — even political parties.

Visit coloradocollege.edu or theideaspace.com for a full schedule of events.

like Zodiac, Triple Nickel Tavern, V Bar and others for a leisurely, 21-and-up bike ride. Thursdays, 9 p.m. Lofty's, 287 E. Fountain Blvd., #100, 520-0024, wfacebook.com/coscruisers.

Coquette's Incline Club, a Saturday morning workout in rain, snow or shine; also enjoy socializing, coffee and food. Ten climbs earns a free T-shirt. Saturdays, 8 a.m. Coquette's Bistro & Bakery, 915 Manitou Ave., Manitou Springs, 685-2420, coquettesbistroandbakery.com.

First & Main Run Club, weekly 3K and 5K runs with monthly prizes for club members. Held in the field behind Rock Bottom. Wednesdays, 6 p.m. Rock Bottom, 3316 Cinema Point Drive, 550-3586, facebook.com/rbrunclub.

The Joy Ride, a weekly bicycle ride that begins at the tavern, travels three to six miles along a downtown route and ends up back at McCabe's for beer specials. Wednesdays, 5:30 p.m. McCabe's Tavern, 520 S. Tejon St., 633-3300, upadowna.com.

Pikes Peak Derby Dames New Year's Resolutions vs. Bad Habits, an all-girls flat-track bout. Sat., Jan. 26, 7 p.m. $10-$15. Colorado Springs City Auditorium, 221 E. Kiowa St., 385-5969, pikespeakderbydames.com.

Team In Training Information Meeting, an overview of Team In Training's endurance event training programs, which all benefit blood cancer research. Morning event is at REI, 1376 E. Woodmen Road; evening event is at Whole Foods, 3180 New Center Point. Sat., Jan. 26, 10:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. 720/440-8641, lauren.trujillo@lls.org, teamintraining.org/rm.

Stage

Dream Masterz Spectacular Magic Show, a family-friendly show by this award-winning magic group. Sat., Jan. 26, 7 p.m. $15-$20, $5-$7 for kids. Tri-Lakes Center for the Arts, 304 Hwy. 105, Palmer Lake, 481-0475, trilakesarts.org.

Happiness, a solo dance/theatre show by Heather Harpham who will weave a portrait of her family during her child's serious illness. Jan. 24-27. $15-$20. Millibo Art Theatre, 1367 Pecan St., 465-6321, themat.org.

Ramantics: 2012, the annual variety show from the Rampart High School Performing Arts Department, featuring everything from Broadway favorites and dance numbers to comic group skits. Jan. 24-26, 7 p.m. $6-$9. Rampart High School, 8250 Lexington Drive, 234-2086, showtix4u.com.

The Trial, a new adaptation of Kafka's story about a man put on trial before a shadowy authority for an unknown crime. Fridays-Sundays, 8 p.m.; through Jan. 27. $5-$10. THEATREdART, 128 N. Nevada Ave., 684-3802, theatredart.org.

VolunteerOpportunities

All Breed Rescue & Training Volunteer Open Houses, a chance to learn about opportunities to get involved with the rescue and rehabilitation of at-risk dogs in Colorado Springs with All Breed. Sun., Jan. 27, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Tues., Jan. 29, noon to 5 p.m. All Breed Rescue and Training, 20 Mount View Lane, Suites B&C, 264-6460, haveanicedog.org.

Engineers Without Borders seeks volunteers to help with technical work and fundraising for its water project in Bolivia. No experience required. 488-0926, ewbcos.org.

First Visitor at Peak Vista seeks volunteers for this program, which helps provide free home support to families with children 0-3. 632-5700.

Marian House needs volunteer drivers to help pick up commodities at various stops throughout the Springs two to three hours per week. Call Theo Reiter at 866-6549 for more. Marian House, 14 W. Bijou St., 475-2347, ccharitiescs.org.

Pacific Intercultural Exchange is seeking host families in El Paso County for English-speaking exchange students ages 15-18. P.I.E. works to match students with families who have similar interests and lifestyles. To learn more, call 866/546-1402.

Peak Area Council of Governments seeks volunteers with good clerical and customer-service skills to help seniors improve their independence and quality of life by working in the Senior Information and Assistance Center (SIAC). Time commitment: 4-7 hours per week. 471-7080, jwilkinson@ppacg.org.

Project Angel Heart needs volunteers to help deliver free, nutritious meals to those living with life-threatening illnesses. Apply online for more information. projectangelheart.org.

The Secure the Call Foundation is seeking donations of old cell phones to reprogram for direct 911 calls for free distribution to senior centers, domestic violence shelters and other agencies. 888/883-6628, securethecall.org.

Spirit of America Response (SOAR) seeks volunteers for its food pantry and other programs for the military community. Call or e-mail for more info. 229-8280, dave@lotuscenterco.org.

MORE
Search all other listings online at csindy.com

How to Submit a Listing

Listings is a free service we offer to our readers. If you'd like to publicize an event or notice, send us the details — who, what, where, when, how much and publishable contact information — in writing **by Wednesday at noon for the following Wednesday's paper**. If humanly possible, please do so at csindy.com: Simply click "Submit an event" at the bottom of the homepage, and the rest is self-explanatory. Other means of submission include e-mail (listings@csindy.com) or fax (577-4107). One-time events typically make it into the issue on the Wednesday leading up to that event; ongoing events sometimes are included in additional issues. That said, events are included on a space-available basis, meaning we can't ever guarantee a listing will make it into print. So we strongly discourage relying on Listings as your sole source of publicity — if you'd like to guarantee placement in the *Indy*, you can purchase an ad in our classifieds section or in our retail advertising section by calling 577-4545. Questions? E-mail listings@csindy.com or call 577-4545.

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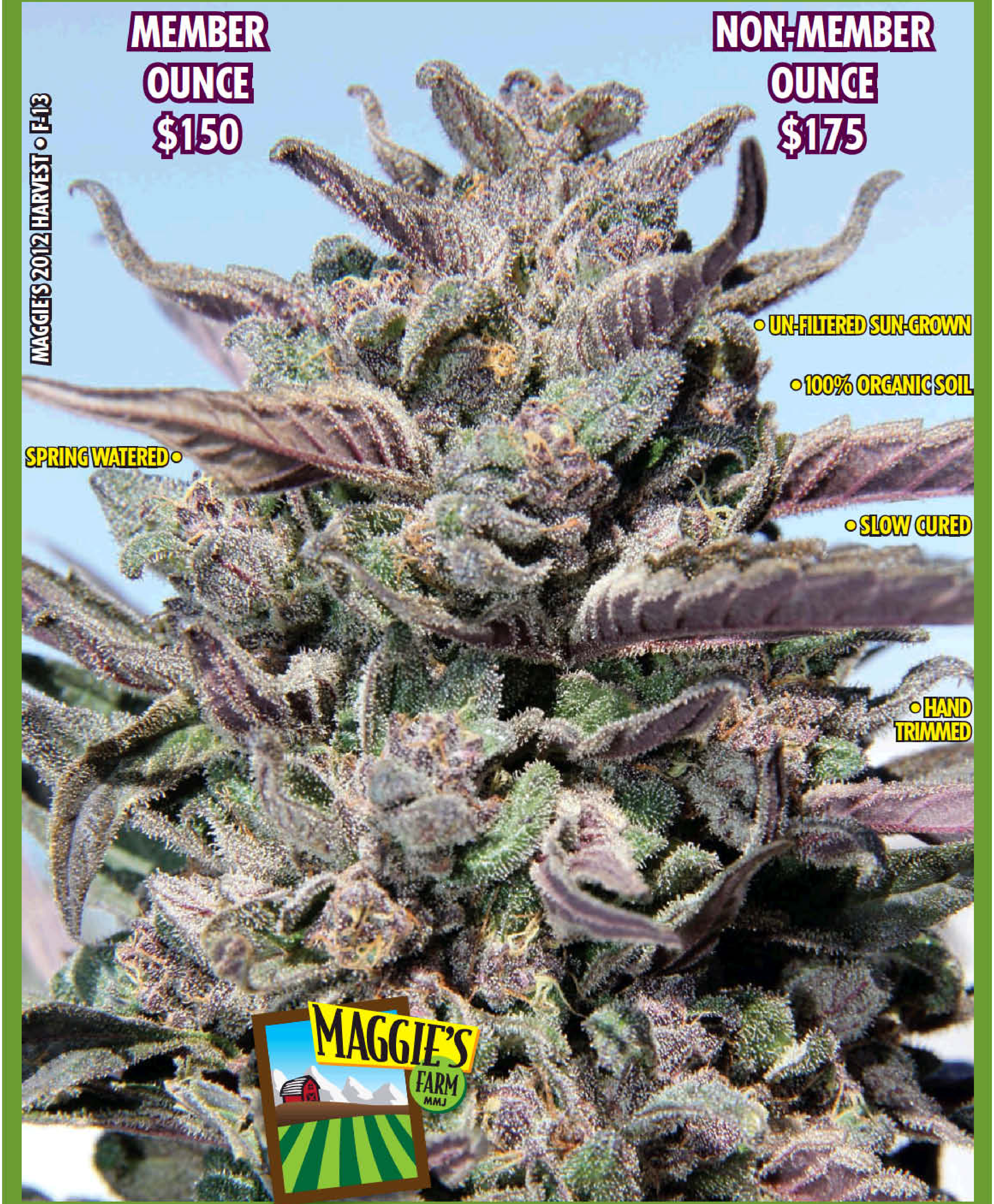
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StrangerThanFiction

Curses, foiled again

When Marquis Diggs, 29, appeared at family court in Hudson County, N.J., with his mother, who was there to drop a restraining order against her son, officials learned that Diggs had several outstanding warrants and arrested him. Deputies who searched him found 32 bags of suspected marijuana in his jacket pocket. (Jersey City's *The Jersey Journal*)

Sheriff's deputies who arrested a mother and daughter suspected of shoplifting in Oconee County, Ga., said the mother told them the daughter couldn't be arrested because she was only 16. When asked for her date of birth, the daughter stated "02/01/1992." Informed that would make her 20, she corrected herself: "02/01/1994." When the arresting deputy explained she'd be 18 years old, "she again appeared to be counting in her head," the deputy reported, "and when she could not come up with an answer, she and [the mother] started crying uncontrollably and would no longer answer my questions." During subsequent interrogation, the mother disclosed further inconsistencies. When the deputy told the daughter she'd be booked as Jane Doe, she finally identified herself as Lavera Hammond-Jackson, 17. (Georgia's *Oconee Patch*)

Popularity contests

Sophie Laboissonniere, 21, pleaded guilty to rioting after the Vancouver Canucks lost the National Hockey League finals in June 2011. Shortly before the rioting, Laboissonniere, who was one of the first suspects charged, took part in a Vancouver beauty pageant and was named Miss Congeniality. (Associated Press)

Americans prefer root canals, colonoscopies, France and NFL replacement refs to Congress, according to a Public Policy Polling survey that showed only 9 percent of respondents had a favorable opinion of Congress. Eighty-five percent held an unfavorable view. "We all know Congress is unpopular," PPP president Dean Debnam said. "But the fact that voters like it even less than cockroaches, lice and Genghis Khan really shows how far its esteem has fallen with the American public." Despite its poor showing, Congress outranked North Korea, the Kardashian family and former Sen. John Edwards. (*The Washington Times*)

Brace yourself

The Royal & Ancient Golf Club and the U.S. Golf Association, golf's top governing organizations, proposed a ban on golfers anchoring their putters against their bellies instead of swinging them freely. "Our conclusion is that anchored strokes threaten to supplant traditional strokes, which with all their frailties are integral to the longstanding character of our sport," R&A chief executive Peter Dawson said, conceding, "We don't think putting in an anchored way is easy. You have to learn how to do it." (Associated Press)

Gun alternative

New York police accused Dominick Anderson, 27, of brutally beating his grandmother and sister with an artificial elephant tusk. He then used the 18-inch tusk to strike one of the six officers he injured as they tried to arrest him. Police said Anderson attacked the women because he believed they put him under a voodoo spell. (*New York's Daily News*)

Free-range prisoners

Officials in Fulton County, Ga., voted to replace more than 1,300 locks in the county jail that have been broken for more than a decade. During that time, county officials and three different sheriffs' administrations warned repeatedly that inmates can easily open doors, even those in maximum security, using soap, toilet paper, pieces of cloth or cardboard. They then roam about the jail freely, often attacking other inmates. Though the measure to install new locks passed 5-2, several commissioners felt the faulty locks wouldn't be a problem if deputies supervised inmates better. Chief Jailer Mark Adger said the new locks would cost more than $5 million and take about four months to install. (*The Atlanta Journal Constitution*)

Profitable flaws

The latest women's body-image worry is wobbly arms, also known, according to a newspaper caption of a photo of Madonna, as "bingo wings." British retailers Marks & Spencer, Asda and Charnos, and U.S. companies Ch'Arms and Spanx are already addressing the condition by offering arm corsets, specialized control sleeves costing between $30 and $175 that are designed specifically to hold flabby arm skin tighter. (Britain's *The Observer*)

Compiled by Roland Sweet. Send clippings, citing source and date, to P.O. Box 8130, Alexandria, VA 22306.

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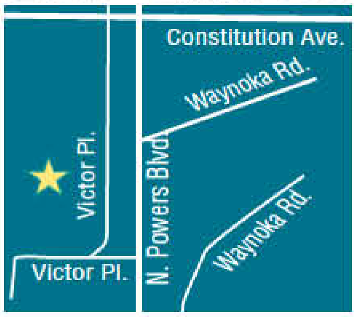

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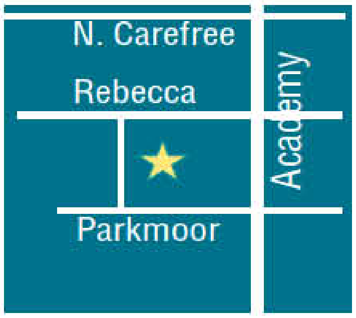

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Base disagreement

As El Paso County Commissioner **Sallie Clark** says, not every precinct in her westside district voted for Amendment 64 in November. But most did, and by some of the largest margins in the county.

Yet when it came time to consider a ban on recreational-marijuana facilities in the county's unincorporated areas, Clark sided with three other commissioners and voted in favor.

With the fundamentals of representative government in mind — not to mention the fact that Commissioner Peggy Littleton voted against the ban, partly because her district also supported the amendment — we asked Clark why. In an interview with the *Independent*, she offers a variety of reasons: concerns about the tax issue getting resolved by the Legislature; wanting to send a message about the county's intent to be very deliberate when handling the issue; and ...

"And I am also sensitive to other commissioners," she says, alluding most specifically to Commissioner Amy Lathen, whose largely unincorporated district opposed the amendment. "So if something's going on in my district that impacts my constituents, a lot of times my other commissioners will look to me to say, 'We'll kind of follow your lead.'"

Deferential turf agreements aside, Clark says she'd be hesitant to act right now regardless.

"To me it's not about the [tax] money," she says. "It's really about making sure we're consistent with whatever we zone; and however we approach it, to make sure that we're in compliance with state and federal law."

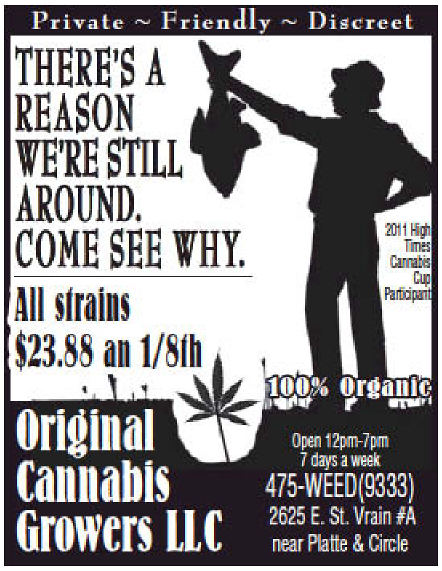
Clark doesn't rule out the possibility that her, or the board's, position could change, as each sees what comes down the pipe, but she won't guarantee it either.

"Now, personally, I don't agree with it. I didn't vote for it; I didn't support it; I think it's gonna create more problems for our state," Clark says. "But, on the other hand, I will look at everything [later]."

Keef crumbs

- The **Colorado Springs Medical Cannabis Council** (csmcc-net.org) will have its quarterly mixer at 7:30 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 24, at the Warehouse Restaurant and Gallery (25 W. Cimarron St.). Expect a legal panel of Coloradans addressing the potential impact of Amendment 64; the event is free to attend.
- Denver's **Cannabis University** (cannabisuniversitycolorado.com) announced in a press release that it is now offering a Hemp Agriculture Seminar. "An experienced agronomist teaches the most current in hemp agri-practice," it reads. Cost is $450 for two attendees.
- In this issue you should find a copy of *ReLeaf*, our free guide to local marijuana. If yours is missing, come get one from our offices at 235 S. Nevada Ave., or find it at csindy.com.

— Bryce Crawford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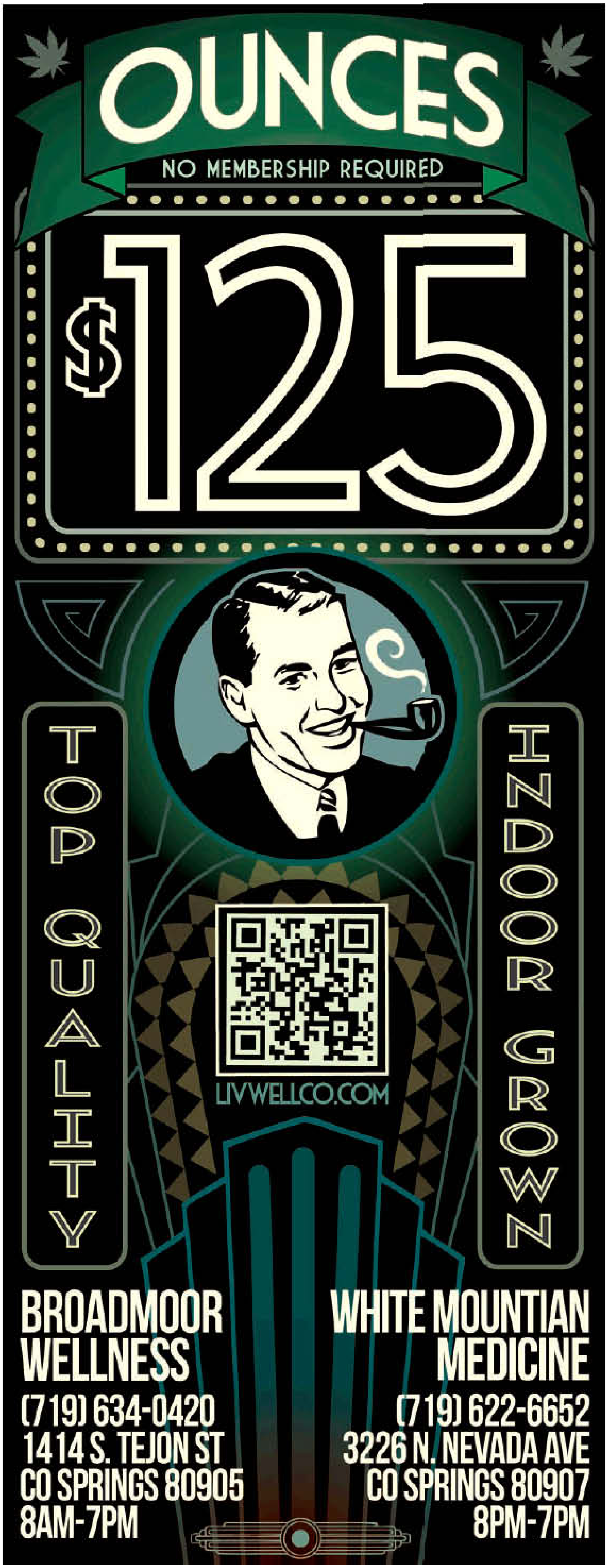
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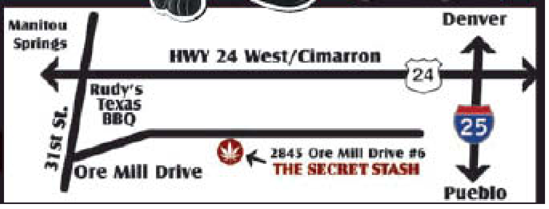
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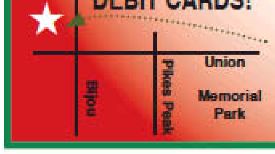
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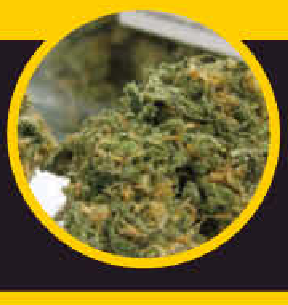

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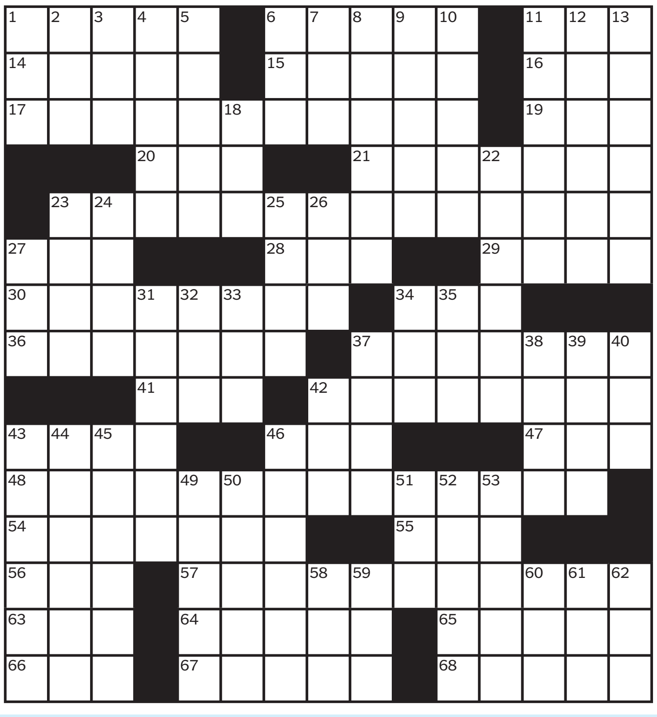

ACROSS

1 Bamboo muncher
6 Paparazzo's target
11 "Very Funny" network
14 Like radon
15 Scout pack leader
16 Spinks's opponent in two title fights
17 Start of a thought by British journalist Miles Kington
19 CD-___
20 Falstaff's princely friend
21 Flower-shaped decoration
23 Thought, part 2
27 Hardly a win-win situation?
28 Album track
29 A Monopoly token
30 Thought, part 3
34 Salon supply
36 Places for mills, once
37 Some varsity players
41 "The lowing herd wind slowly o'er the ___" (Thomas Gray line)
42 Thought, part 4
43 Morales of "Caprica"
46 One of a deadly seven
47 Pull down
48 Thought, part 5
54 Anonymous one, in court
55 Ingested
56 Conquistador's booty
57 End of the thought
63 O. J. Simpson trial judge
64 "When thou ___ down, thou shalt not be afraid": Proverbs
65 Where Sanyo is headquartered
66 Alternative to "smoking"
67 Brown ermine
68 Skewered fare

DOWN

1 Water ___, Inc.
2 New England's Cape ___
3 "The Matrix" role
4 BBC time-traveling series
5 Counselor-___
6 Insensitive sort
7 Heart chart, briefly
8 Eye lustfully
9 Poet whose work inspired "Cats"
10 Low man on stage
11 Calculus, familiarly
12 Pie-eyed
13 San ___ (Hearst Castle site)
18 Country music's ___ Young Band
22 Actor Estevez
23 Commercial ending for Sun or Star
24 Warm, so to speak
25 "JAG" spinoff with Mark Harmon
26 ___ reaction
27 Frank McCourt memoir
31 One of baseball's Alous
32 "Norma ___" (Sally Field film)
33 Thurman of "The Avengers"
34 Gloomy guy?
35 Wind down
37 Spirit of Islamic myth
38 Onetime Dodge
39 Nanette's "nothing"
40 Mach 1 breaker
42 Super Smash Bros. Brawl console
43 Prohibit by judicial order
44 Reach an altitude of
45 When some do lunch
46 Den system
49 Eurasian range
50 Tailored ___ (customized)
51 Old gang heater
52 "Things could be worse"
53 Pick on
58 G8 member
59 Cousin of TV's Gomez
60 "CSI" setting
61 Rap sheet entry
62 Amount of cream

For puzzle answers, please see pg. 46

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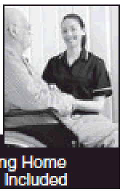

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AdviceGoddess

By Amy Alkon

Not just another pimply face

I've loved my fiancee deeply for her intelligence and beautiful personality since the day we met five years ago. However, I don't think I was ever really attracted to her. In fact, lately, I'm increasingly repulsed by her. I hate her slouchy, tomboyish walk, and I'm turned off by her unfeminine manners. She constantly has pimples; her breath smells; and her lips are always dry and chapped. I go through the motions with her in bed, but it's become very unsatisfying. In all fairness, she has a great body, beautiful eyes, and a beautiful smile, and I really do love her and feel absolutely horrendous for sounding so superficial. I could never actually cheat on her, but I've been having thoughts of it, and that alone makes me feel terrible. — Conflicted

In any relationship, there's an inevitable erosion in hot and steamy, but you're with the wrong woman if your sex face could easily be mistaken for your standing-over-a-septic-leak face.

OK, your fiancee could win inner beauty contests, but beauty on the inside isn't enough unless you've been reincarnated as an endoscopy camera and sent on safari down her digestive tract. Then it wouldn't matter that your favorite thing in bed is to roll over and realize she's away on business, or that your fantasies involve picturing her fully clothed, scribbling out a purchase order for a warehouse of zit cream.

Looks are especially important when getting into a long-term relationship (especially the "till death do us part" kind), because if you're careful crossing the street, you'll be spending a really long time looking at the person. The ultimate in well-intentioned cruelty is marrying somebody you aren't attracted to and will come to despise as you find her increasingly physically repellent. You should instead figure out what your "type" is and only get together with someone who fits solidly into it. We all have a type — looks, smell and behavior we're drawn to. For some people, it spans a broader spectrum of humanity (and in some cases, farm animals). For others, the range is smaller, which is fine, as long as they accept that they're narrowing their options — and don't narrow them so far that the only woman they could ever go out with is Jessica Biel.

There's an inevitable erosion in hot and steamy.

The least hurtful thing you could do now would be to hop a bus back in time and sleep in on the morning you met your girlfriend. Barring an ability to bend the laws of physics, you should break up with her immediately. (Tell her the relationship just isn't working for you anymore, not the whole ugly truth.) When you love a woman you aren't also in lust with, you should resolve to love her only as a friend — same as you would some loyal hairy guy you know who's also "beautiful on the inside." Nothing comes between the two of you, either — save for the feeling that a roll in the hay with him would pale in eroticism to a roll in a river of cat vomit.

Deck the halls, not the guests

At a Christmas party, a drunk man made a lewd comment to my wife. When she told me about it afterward, I got angry and told her I wanted to approach him and tell him not to disrespect her. She said that only crazy people do that and that she was sorry she'd even mentioned it. Isn't demanding that he apologize to her the right thing to do? What man just lets this go? — The Husband

Historically, men fought duels to defend a woman's honor when her virginity was called into question. Just wondering: Is there any real worry that people at the Christmas party now suspect your wife has had sex after marriage? Sometimes you make a situation worse by taking action. This would be one of those times. The guy was drunk (which means you may have to remind him of what he said before demanding he apologize for saying it). He's creeped on your wife only once; he hasn't started following her around the supermarket, muttering that he'd like to jingle her bell. By chewing him out for what seems to have been a passing drunken incident, you would probably turn it into a lasting incident, creating lasting social discomfort for your wife. And as endearing as it is that you're raring to go all Sir Lancelot on the guy, by showing your wife you can't hold back, you'd likely cause her to hold back news of anything more emotionally charged than a spilled drink. Save your energy for offenses with a continuing negative effect, like the neighbors who leave their blindingly bright Christmas display up until Easter, making every moment you spend in your living room feel like a year being interrogated by the East German Secret Police.

Got a problem? Write Amy Alkon, 171 Pier Ave., #280, Santa Monica, CA 90405, or e-mail adviceamy@aol.com (advicegoddess.com). Alkon is the author of **I See Rude People: One Woman's Battle To Beat Some Manners Into Impolite Society.**

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SUDUKO X
Complete the grid so that every row, column, diagonal and 3x3 box contain the numbers 1 to 9. Use logic to define the answers. Answers on page 46

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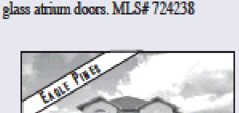

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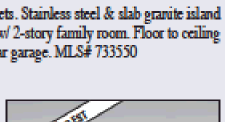
$560,000



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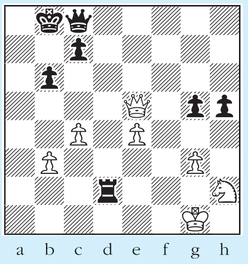
Brainiac Alert!

CHESS QUIZ



BLACK TO PLAY
Hint: Go after the king.
For puzzle answers, see page 46
independent

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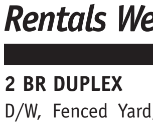

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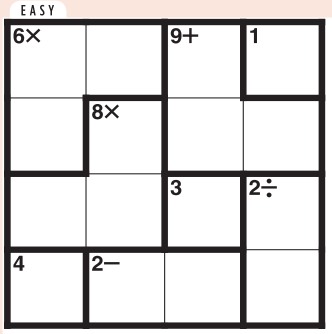

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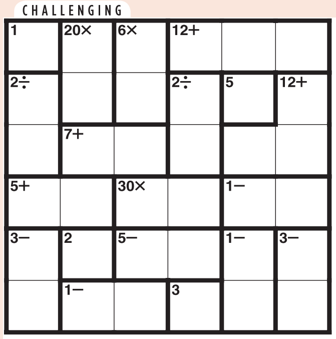
CHALLENGING



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Fill the grid with digits so as not to repeat a number in any row or column, and so that the digits within each heavily outlined cage will produce the target number show by using addition, subtraction, multiplication or division. A 4x4 grid uses the digits 1,2,3,4, while a 6x6 grid uses the numbers 1-6.

For puzzle answers, see page 46

RULES

❶ Each row and each column must contain the numbers 1 through 4 (easy) or 1 through 6 (challenging) without repeating.
❷ The numbers within the heavily outlined boxes, called cages, must combine using the given operation (in any order) to produce the target numbers in the top-left corners.
❸ Freebies: Fill in single-box cages with the number in the top-left corner.

FreeWillAstrology

By Rob Brezsny

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): "Nobody can be exactly like me. Even I have trouble doing it." So said eccentric, outspoken and hard-partying actress Talullah Bankhead (1902-1968). Can you guess her astrological sign? Aquarius, of course. Her greatest adventure came from trying to keep up with the unpredictable urges that welled up inside her. She found it challenging and fun to be as unique as possible. I nominate her to be your role model in the next four weeks. Your assignment is to work extra hard at being yourself.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): The German government sponsored a scientific study of dowsing, which is a form of magical divination used to locate underground sources of water. After 10 years, the chief researcher testified, "It absolutely works, beyond all doubt. But we have no idea why or how." An assertion like that might also apply to the mojo you'll have at your disposal as you forge new alliances and bolster your web of connections in the coming weeks. I don't know how or why you'll be such an effective networker, but you will be.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Congress spends an inordinate amount of time on trivial matters. For example, 16 percent of all the laws it passed in the past two years were devoted to renaming post offices. That's down from the average of the previous eight years, during which time almost 20 percent of laws had the sole purpose of renaming post offices. In my astrological opinion, you Tauruses can't afford to indulge in anything close to that level of nonsense during the next four weeks. Keep time-wasting activities down to less than five percent of your total. Focus on getting a lot of important stuff done. Be extra thoughtful and responsible as you craft the impact you're having on the world.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): What if your unconscious mind has dreamed up sparkling answers to your raging questions but your conscious mind doesn't know about them yet? Is it possible you are not taking advantage of the sly wisdom that your deeper intelligence has been cooking up? I say it's time to poke around down there. It's time to take aggressive measures as you try to smoke out the revelations that your secret self has prepared for you. How? Remember your dreams, of course. Notice hunches that arise out of nowhere. And send a friendly greeting to your unconscious mind, something like, "I adore you and I'm receptive to you and I'd love to hear what you have to tell me."

CANCER (June 21-July 22): In his book *Our Band Could Be Your Life*, Michael Azerrad says that the Cancerian singer-songwriter Steve Albini is a "connoisseur of intensity." That means he's picky about what he regards as intense. Even the two kinds of music that are often thought of as the embodiment of ferocious emotion don't make the grade for Albini. Heavy metal is comical, he says, not intense. Hardcore punk is childish, not intense. What's your definition of intensity, Cancerian? I see the coming weeks as prime time for you to commune with the very best expressions of that state of being. Be a connoisseur of intensity.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): There's a butterfly sanctuary at the Como Park Zoo and Conservatory in St. Paul, Minn., called the Enchanted Garden. As you enter, a sign reads, "Please do not touch the butterflies. Let the butterflies touch you." In other words, you shouldn't initiate contact with the delicate creatures. You shouldn't pursue them or try to capture them. Instead, make yourself available for them to land on you. Allow them to decide how and when your connection will begin to unfold. In the coming week, I suggest you adopt a similar approach to any beauty you'd like to know better.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Do you ever fantasize about a more perfect version of yourself? Is there, in your imagination, an idealized image of who you might become in the future? That can be a good thing if it motivates you to improve and grow. But it might also lead you to devalue the flawed but beautiful creation you are right now. It may harm your capacity for self-acceptance. Your assignment in the coming week is to temporarily forget about whom you might evolve into at some later date, and instead just love your crazy, mysterious life exactly as it is.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Novelist Jeffrey Eugenides says he doesn't have generic emotions that can be described with one word. "Sadness," "joy" and "regret" don't happen to him. Instead, he prefers "complicated hybrid emotions, Germanic train-car constructions," like "the disappointment of sleeping with one's fantasy" or "the excitement of getting a hotel room with a minibar." He delights in sensing "intimations of mortality brought on by aging family members" and "sadness inspired by failing restaurants." In the coming days, Libra, I think you should specialize in one-of-a-kind feelings like these. Milk the nuances! Exult in the peculiarities! Celebrate the fact that each new wave of passion has never before arisen in quite the same form.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): After analyzing your astrological omens for the coming weeks, I decided that the best advice I could give you would be this passage by the English writer G. K. Chesterton: "Of all modern notions, the worst is this: that domesticity is dull. Inside the home, they say, is dead decorum and routine; outside is adventure and variety. But the truth is that the home is the only place of liberty, the only spot on earth where a person can alter arrangements suddenly, make an experiment or indulge in a whim. The home is not the one tame place in a world of adventure; it is the one wild place in a world of set rules and set tasks."

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): My philosophy is that everyone on the planet, including me, is a jerk now and then. In fact, I'm suspicious of those who are apparently so unfailingly well-behaved that they NEVER act like jerks. On the other hand, some people are jerks far too much of the time, and should be avoided. Here's my rule of thumb: How sizable is each person's Jerk Quotient? If it's below 6 percent, I'll probably give them a chance to be a presence in my life — especially if they're smart and interesting. According to my analysis of the astrological omens, Sagittarius, this gauge may be useful for you to keep in mind during the coming weeks.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): The French painter Cezanne painted images of a lot of fruit in the course of his career. He liked to take his sweet time while engaged in his work. The apples and pears and peaches that served as his models often rotted before he was done capturing their likenesses. That's the kind of approach I recommend for you in the coming days, Capricorn. Be very deliberate and gradual and leisurely in whatever labor of love you devote yourself to. No rushing allowed! With conscientious tenderness, exult in attending to every last detail of the process.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): The Dardanelles Strait is a channel that connects the Black Sea to the Mediterranean Sea, separating Europe from Asia. In some places it's less than a mile wide. But the currents are fierce, so if you try to swim across at those narrow points, you're pushed around and end up having to travel five or six miles. In light of the current astrological omens, I'm predicting that you will have a comparable challenge in the coming days, Pisces. The task may seem easier or faster than it actually is. Plan accordingly.

HOMEWORK: What's the best, most healing trouble you could whip up right now? Testify at freewillastrology.com.

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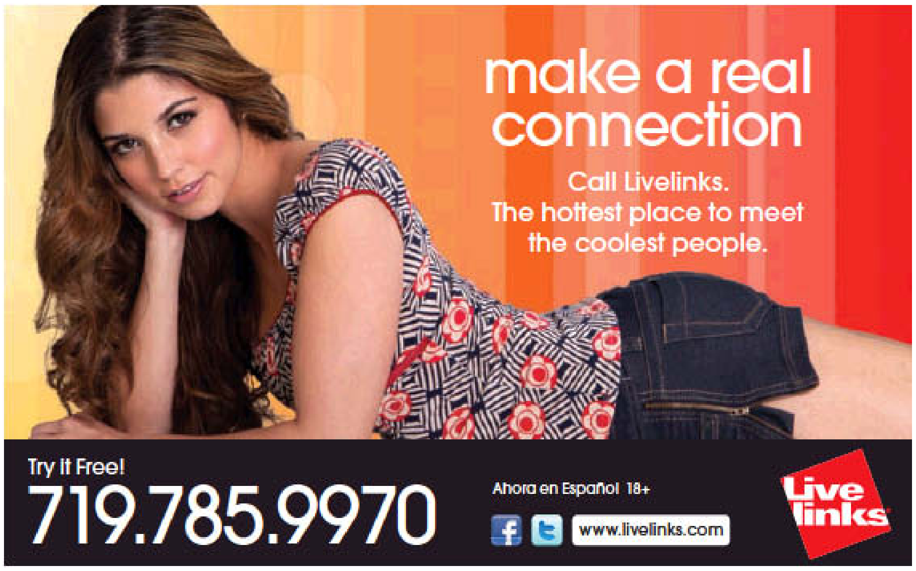

This week's answers

SUDOKU

1	4	7	8	3	6	2	9	5
8	9	3	2	5	4	7	1	6
6	5	2	1	7	9	3	8	4
9	7	5	3	6	2	8	4	1
2	8	6	5	4	1	9	3	7
3	1	4	9	8	7	5	6	2
5	2	8	4	1	3	6	7	9
4	6	9	7	2	8	1	5	3
7	3	1	6	9	5	4	2	8

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1 1	20× 5	6× 3	12+ 4	6	2
2÷ 3	4	2	2÷ 1	5 5	12+ 6
6	7+ 3	4	2	1	5
5+ 4	1	30× 6	5	1– 2	3
3– 5	2 2	5– 1	6	1– 3	3– 4
2	1– 6	5	3 3	4	1

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6× 3	2	9+ 4	1 1
1	8× 4	2	3
2	1	3 3	2÷ 4
4 4	2– 3	1	2

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Crossword

P	A	N	D	A		C	E	L	E	B		T	B	S
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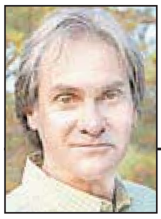
N	O	N		S	T	O	A	T		K	E	B	A	B

CHESS QUIZ

From page 45:

1. … Qf8! (threatens 1. … Qf2ch with mate to follow).



RangerRich

By Rich Tosches

Lamborn's big bill

It's official: Now in his seventh year in Washington, our village's political wizard, U.S. Rep. **Doug Lamborn**, R-Always Looks Puzzled, has actually sponsored (not just co-sponsored) a House bill that was signed into law. For those of you keeping score, this means that Doug, after six years in Congress, has now introduced at least one more successful bill than has Notre Dame football player **Manti Te'o**'s girlfriend.

And what issue did Congressman Doug's bill address? Federal deficit reduction? Obscenely wasteful military spending? Clean energy? Assault weapons? Education?

Not exactly. Doug, who isn't sure if **William Henry Harrison** or **Benjamin Harrison** was one of the Beatles, leaves such complex issues to other lawmakers — the ones who have not called our president a "tar baby."

Instead, Doug focused on an equally important issue in America today, one that goes to the very soul of our great nation: Shall we the people, as our Founding Fathers intended, be allowed to trudge up a very steep hill on broken, rotting railroad ties until boogers fly out of our noses?

The answer, apparently, is yes. Seems while other lawmakers focused on silly things like the economy, Doug saved or legalized or did something for the Manitou Incline, a one-time cog-railroad line that still climbs a leg-burning mountainside, attracting swarms of health-conscious folks, the heavy wooden steps beckoning them with the promise of pulled groin muscles, terrible headaches and knee replacement surgery. All this in a pristine environment of such remoteness and solitude that 500 other people will be doing it with you.

While other lawmakers focused on silly things like the economy …

On a positive note, the Incline is good for the Manitou Springs economy, with sweaty, panting climbers often celebrating the hike by visiting one of the town's 18,966 tarot card readers. ("Well, well. Looks like you've drawn The Fool card. Any more questions?")

Sen. **Michael Bennet** of Colorado, a Democrat who also has nothing more important to do because the nation is rolling along so well, sponsored a companion bill in his wing of the big nuthouse known as Congress (proud motto: "Almost as Popular as Cockroaches and Colonoscopies According to a Recent Poll.")

And on Jan. 10, President **Barack Obama**, still thrilled by Lamborn's "tar baby" reference to him in 2011, signed the Manitou Incline thing into law. It more or less, I think, allows the Incline owner — the Manitou and Pikes Peak Railroad Company — to give the property to the U.S. Forest Service. Eventually, in cooperation with Manitou Springs, Colorado Springs will maintain the Incline.

And by "maintain" I mean "force homeless people to hoist Mayor **Steve Bach** onto their shoulders and carry him up the thousands of steps." (Footnote: The homeless people will officially be known as "volunteers," and at the summit Bach will berate and insult them.)

From Lamborn, boasting of his work on the Incline deal via a prepared statement: "Olympic athletes have even trained there."

For example, during testing on ways to be a fraud, champion cyclist and Olympic medalist **Lance Armstrong** once had a transfusion of kangaroo blood then hopped on two feet up the entire Incline. In 27 seconds. Balancing himself on his tail. While pulling the old train.

(He also trained there for what is known as the Lance Armstrong Triathlon: Cheat for three miles, lie for 12 miles and finish up by being a no-good, worthless bastard for 26 miles.)

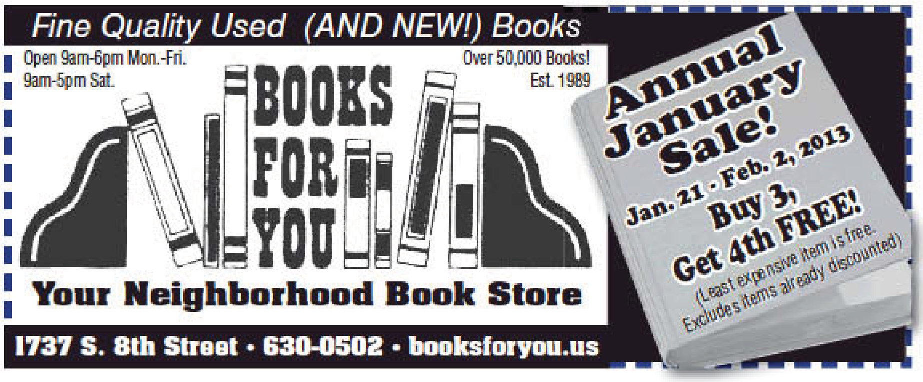
"I am happy to say that outdoor enthusiasts can soon hike the Incline with complete confidence that they are no longer trespassing," said Lamborn's speech writer. Lamborn did indicate, all on his own, that he's also happy to be from El Paso County, where the highly educated voters would elect and re-elect a giant dancing cow if it indicated by a series of mooing noises that it was a Republican. (See **Douglas Bruce**.)

"Much like the trail itself," wrote whoever makes the words to put in Lamborn's mouth, "passing this bill has been a steep climb at times …"

Perhaps Congressman Doug will even try the Incline himself one day.

I bet it will be during President Obama's next State of the Union address.

***Rich Tosches (rangerrich@csindy.com) also writes a Sunday column in the* Denver Post.**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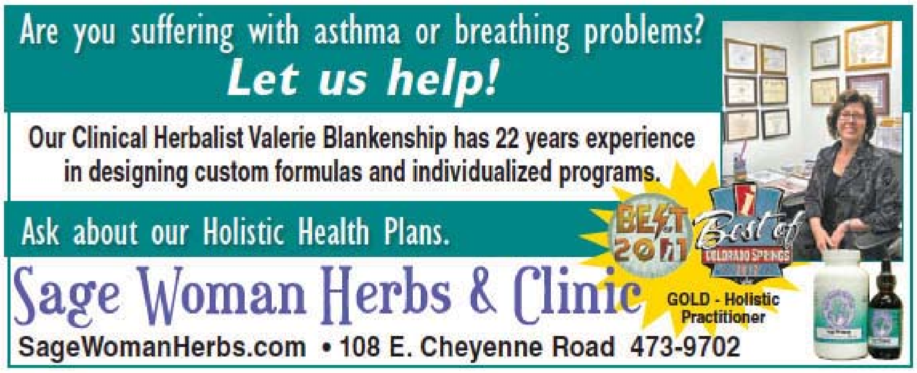
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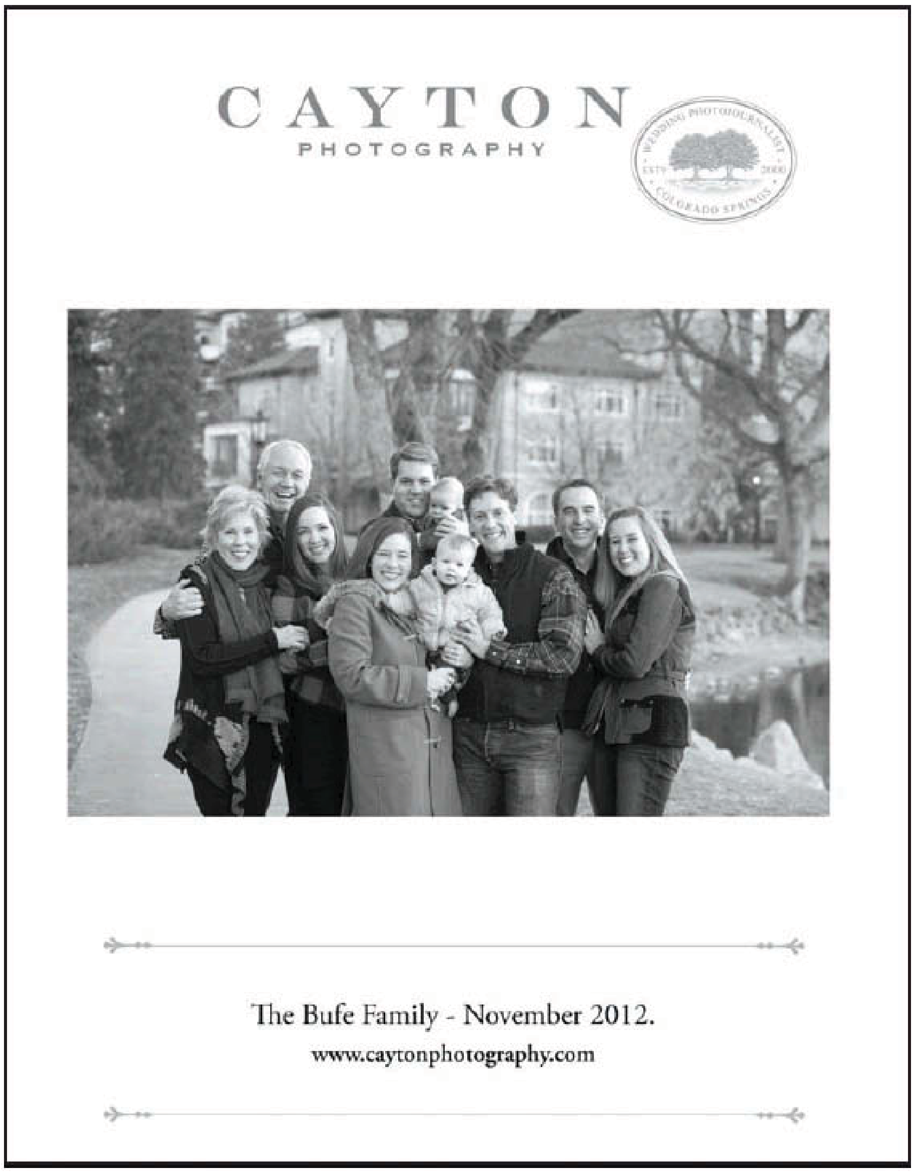
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